

Sadat abrogates treaty with Soviets as 'empty'

By ANAN SAFADI
POST Middle East Affairs Correspondent
Egyptian President Anwar Sadat last night presented Parliament with a draft law abrogating the 15-year-old Cairo-Moscow "friendship and cooperation" treaty signed in May 1971. In a speech to the Egyptian Parliament, Sadat said the treaty has become meaningless due to the strained relations between the two countries.

Immediate House action was due late last night. Sadat charged that the Soviet Union has breached the treaty by refusing to supply Egypt with new arms and spare parts and by refusing to reschedule Cairo's debts to Moscow. He said that the Soviet Union has already instructed India not to supply spare parts for

Egypt's Russian-made weapons, adding that these arms would become "junk" in a year or two. Sadat indicated that until yesterday he had exchanged rather heated letters with the Kremlin. The Soviets have accused him of "distorting facts," he noted. Sadat said the Kremlin has condemned his recent "open door" economic and political moves through which he has drifted toward the West. He said they were particularly annoyed by the rapprochement promoted with the U.S. since the 1973 Middle East war. Sadat accused the Soviets of concentrating on the creation of anti-Egyptian axis within the Arab world, such as Libya. He indicated further that the Soviets were behind the recent Syria and Jordan alignment — both countries decried as "hirelings and agents" though he did not mention them by name. Sadat disclosed that the Soviet Union has instigated Egyptian leaders against him as early as 1971 while charging that he was liquidating Nasser's 1952 revolutionary regime. Sadat's decision was seen as yet another of the "decisive moves" which he usually introduces whenever facing discontent within the country. Disappointment by Egyptians over Sadat's far-fetched political and economic promises following the recent Sinai interim settlement has been aggravated by his defensive stance in face of Syrian charges that he had abandoned the Arab camp against Israel.

Phalange backs Franjeh Ahdab threatens force

BEIRUT. — Military coup leader Brig-Gen. Aziz Ahdab warned President Suleiman Franjeh yesterday to resign immediately or be ousted by force. The defiant President, his position suddenly strengthened by the support of the powerful Christian Phalangist party's militia, dared him to try. Clashes flared across Beirut as the country's plethora of army factions and private militias took their sides and the sound of rocket and machinegun fire erupted in the capital's deserted streets for the seventh time in 11 months. Ahdab, the Beirut army garrison commander who staged Thursday night's coup in the Capital, gave Franjeh another ultimatum to resign or "the nationalist reform movement will be forced to decide the situation militarily." But in a last-minute switch, the powerful Christian Phalangist Party, which had initially backed the call for Franjeh to resign voluntarily, announced it would oppose attempts to oust the President. Renegade Moslem soldiers meanwhile occupied the Serail, the seat of government, in a dramatic demonstration of the turmoil gripping Lebanon after nearly a year of civil war, mudslinging and relentless political strife. "Here we are, at dawn on this sad Sunday, March 14, with three armies, two police forces, 22 militias, 42 parties, nine Palestinian organizations, four radio stations and two television stations," said editor Edouard Saab in the French-language newspaper "L'Orient-Le Jour." His comment reflected a growing sense of desperation as members of Parliament struggled to persuade President Franjeh to heed repeated orders

to quit office from leaders of the three-day old army coup. Franjeh, a Maronite Christian, is holed up in his hilltop palace protected by 1,200 loyal soldiers, a dozen tanks and about 800 gunmen from his home town of Zagharta in the Christian-held mountains. He ignored a noon deadline to resign set by Aziz Ahdab, who said he would follow Parliament's wishes on what to do about it but threatened military action if the politicians failed. Parliament Speaker Kamel Assaad put into official form a "sense of Parliament" document with 88 signatures urging resignation, worked out in frantic talks late Saturday night. This was more than the two-thirds majority needed for constitutional decisions in the 99-member Assembly. Assaad notified the Presidential Palace yesterday morning it was on its way by special courier. But Franjeh's aides refused to accept it and the dangerous stalemate continued. While the bickering went on at the top, the streets of Beirut and most of the Lebanese countryside remained at the mercy of private militias, mudslingers and Palestinian gunmen. Police said 21 persons were killed and 41 wounded in fighting and sniping in Beirut and the northern Lebanon area where Zagharta militiamen battled Moslem gunmen from Tripoli, 96 kms. north of Beirut. The downtown hotels of Beirut echoed with rifle and machinegun fire and rocket explosions for most of the day. Fighting also spread through the commercial area around Marty's Square, a traditional battleground in the 10-month civil war. (UPI, AP)

Three die in Tel Aviv fire Rabin: No change in a-bomb policy

THREE BODIES were found last night in the debris of a fire that gutted several businesses on Rehov Shoshon in Tel Aviv, Israel Radio reported at midnight. The bodies had not yet been identified, but they were thought to be labourers from the administered territories who often sleep at their work places. Eight fire trucks spent two hours getting the fire under control. Among the businesses which were completely burned out were a cotton mill and a mattress warehouse. A separate one-story house on the block collapsed completely. The fire broke out at 9 p.m. in the area where recently there have been five other fires, including one which damaged the "Ha'aretz" newspaper plant.

Jerusalem Post Diplomatic Correspondent Moshe Dayan's recent statements on Israel's need for a nuclear deterrent were not cleared in advance with Premier Rabin, the Premier told the Cabinet yesterday. Replying to a question from Religious Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Mr. Rabin noted that the Government had neither control of nor responsibility for statements made by Knesset Members. Dr. Rabin had wondered whether Dayan's remarks, made on two occasions in Israel and abroad, were a new departure from the well-tried formula: "Israel will not be the first to introduce nuclear weapons into the Middle East." Rabin seemed to suppose that

Dayan had discussed his statements in advance with the Prime Minister. Raphael declined to say if he thought Dayan's more thoroughly worked formulation better or worse — but the implication was that he thought it better. Mr. Rabin, however, said Raphael's query presented "an admirable opportunity to make it absolutely clear that no change has occurred in Israel's policy on this matter. Israel is not a nuclear state. Israel will not be the first state to introduce this kind of weapon into the Middle East." Informed sources said Rabin and Dayan have not met privately since their meeting in Rabin's office last month — their first for over year.

Fuel and basic foods up today; IL trimmed; 4% rise in c-o-l seen Now IL 7.52 to the \$

By AARON SITTNER
Jerusalem Post Reporter
PRICES OF ALL foods and vital domestic and personal services are dearer as of this morning following a Government announcement last night that subsidies for basic foods would not be raised beyond the IL1,600m. called for in the state budget, despite increasing prices on world markets.

Coupled with a further two per cent devaluation of the pound — to IL7.52 to the dollar — also announced last night, the Cabinet Economics Committee sanctioned hikes in the retail prices of the basics — from 19 per cent for standard hard cheeses, to 22 per cent for frozen poultry, to 26.3 per cent for white bread. In contrast, the price of sugar was cut — from IL6 per kg. to IL5.50. The drop reflects a reduction in world prices. The price of rice remains unchanged. Petrol costs nearly 15 per cent more: a liter of 83 octane petrol now costs IL3.20 instead of IL2.80; 94 octane, IL3.90 from IL3.40. Diesel fuel is up by 12 per cent — from IL1.25 to IL1.40 per litre, and kerosene — 13.3 per cent higher — goes from IL1.50 to IL1.70 a litre. Fuel prices were last raised on September 28, 1975 — an average of 21 per cent. The Economic Ministers also approved a 25 per cent hike in bus fares. Similar rises are expected in fares on Israel Railways, inter-urban and local taxis, Arkia Inland Airlines and trucking charges. All of these increases are expected to be announced within 10 days. A kilowatt-hour of electricity, as of this morning, will cost 1.7 agora more, on the average, and water rates will soon be increased to reflect increased costs of electricity for pumping and distribution. A 12-kg. cylinder of cooking gas will now cost IL40.50 instead of IL36. Here are some of the new prices you will be paying, with the old prices in brackets.

Bread, white, 750 gm. loaf — IL1.20 (96 ag.)
Bread, 500 gram loaf — IL1.25 (112)
Milk, litre — IL1.96 (IL1.60)
Flour, 1 kg. — IL2.70 (IL2.15)
Cooking oil, soyab, 630 ml. bottle — IL3.15 (IL2.60)
Eggs, average, per unit — 47.5 ag. (38 ag.)
Frozen beef, 1 kg., average cut — IL24 (IL20)
Frozen chicken, 1 kg. — IL12.20 (IL10)
Margarine, 230-gram block — IL1.35 (IL1)
Butter, 100-gram block — IL2.50 (IL2)
Hard cheese, standard, 1 kg — IL21.50 (IL18)
Leben curdled milk product, 170-gram cup — 50 ag. (40); Bialle — 75 ag. (60); Sour cream — IL1.35 (IL1.10).
The spokesman of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Gad Soen, warned that Ministry inspectors will now step up their spot checks to make sure shopkeepers do not profiteer during the change-over in prices. He said a list of 150 popular food items and their maximum resale prices will be distributed and published soon.

Bread, white, 750 gm. loaf — IL1.20 (96 ag.)
Bread, 500 gram loaf — IL1.25 (112)
Milk, litre — IL1.96 (IL1.60)
Flour, 1 kg. — IL2.70 (IL2.15)
Cooking oil, soyab, 630 ml. bottle — IL3.15 (IL2.60)
Eggs, average, per unit — 47.5 ag. (38 ag.)
Frozen beef, 1 kg., average cut — IL24 (IL20)
Frozen chicken, 1 kg. — IL12.20 (IL10)
Margarine, 230-gram block — IL1.35 (IL1)
Butter, 100-gram block — IL2.50 (IL2)
Hard cheese, standard, 1 kg — IL21.50 (IL18)
Leben curdled milk product, 170-gram cup — 50 ag. (40); Bialle — 75 ag. (60); Sour cream — IL1.35 (IL1.10).
The spokesman of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Gad Soen, warned that Ministry inspectors will now step up their spot checks to make sure shopkeepers do not profiteer during the change-over in prices. He said a list of 150 popular food items and their maximum resale prices will be distributed and published soon.

Bread, white, 750 gm. loaf — IL1.20 (96 ag.)
Bread, 500 gram loaf — IL1.25 (112)
Milk, litre — IL1.96 (IL1.60)
Flour, 1 kg. — IL2.70 (IL2.15)
Cooking oil, soyab, 630 ml. bottle — IL3.15 (IL2.60)
Eggs, average, per unit — 47.5 ag. (38 ag.)
Frozen beef, 1 kg., average cut — IL24 (IL20)
Frozen chicken, 1 kg. — IL12.20 (IL10)
Margarine, 230-gram block — IL1.35 (IL1)
Butter, 100-gram block — IL2.50 (IL2)
Hard cheese, standard, 1 kg — IL21.50 (IL18)
Leben curdled milk product, 170-gram cup — 50 ag. (40); Bialle — 75 ag. (60); Sour cream — IL1.35 (IL1.10).
The spokesman of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Gad Soen, warned that Ministry inspectors will now step up their spot checks to make sure shopkeepers do not profiteer during the change-over in prices. He said a list of 150 popular food items and their maximum resale prices will be distributed and published soon.

Civil servants reject Barkai recommendations

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — The Histadrut's civil servants union yesterday rejected the Barkai Committee recommendations to abolish specific allowances enjoyed by over 20,000 state employees. The decision was taken following a four-hour strike by workers who have been receiving the allowance (reported on page 3) and a meeting with works committee leaders. Representatives of works committees in all government departments except Defence and Finance attacked the Barkai report at a meeting with the secretariat of the civil servants union here. Those who have been receiving the allowance demanded it be maintained while those who have not, pressed for equal pay. The secretariat later conferred behind closed doors and announced that the Barkai Committee recommendations "are an edict that the public cannot accept." The secretariat added that as long as no detailed report exists on (Continued on page 4, col. 4)



MOTORISTS queue up to fill their tanks yesterday while Ministers and officials in the Kirya offices seen in the background deliberate on exactly how much petrol is to cost today. (Emka)

More to come this year

By DAVID KRIVINE
Jerusalem Post Economic Correspondent
THE 25 PER CENT increase in the prices of subsidized foodstuffs — bread, dairy products, margarine, meat, eggs and cooking oil — conforms with the Government decision, embodied in the budget, to reduce the outlay on subsidies from IL3,660m. to IL1,600m. These cuts were approved by the Ministerial Economic Committee yesterday. In fact, there still remains an excess of IL900m. still to be shaven off the allocation. It will be eliminated during the present year — through further price increases to be announced in due course, according to Arnon Gafny, Director-General of the Treasury. The present round of price hikes appears to conform with the demand of the Histadrut, which called for a decrease in subsidies to only IL2,500m., instead of the scheduled IL3,660m. However Gafny was firm that further cuts will be made. "The aim," he said, "is to even down the price support to a maximum of 25 per cent. We shall achieve this by the end of 1976 for all the products in question, except bread." Fuel prices are also increased — car petrol by 15 per cent. This commodity is not subsidized, but OPEC price hikes, combined with the effect of Israel's periodic mini-devaluations, have brought the Fuel Equalization Fund to a deficit of IL1,300m. The present change will reduce this deficit to IL300m.; suggesting that here again there may be further price adjustments in the future. The increase in the price of diesel fuel is limited to 10 per cent, because it is used to generate electricity. As a result, electricity prices will edge by five per cent. The cost-of-living index is expected to go up as a result of these changes by 4-4.5 per cent. Gafny stated, of which 3 per cent derives from the subsidy cuts, and 1.25 per cent from the rise in fuel prices. Social welfare payments will be adapted next month to compensate for the rise in living costs.

A levy will be imposed on all stocks held by traders and shopkeepers, to ensure that they do not gain from the price increase. In summary, he pointed out that the listed goods have been frozen since November, 1974. "The present one-time increase does not exceed the general price climb that has taken place for all other goods since that time." It is a belated adjustment to the existing trend, he said.

Likud: Cut budget
LIKUD LEADERS yesterday voiced a demand that the Government cut its budget for subsidies by 85 per cent, instead of 50, and that it do so at once and not in two stages. This, Simcha Ehrlich, Likud Party chairman, told the press in Tel Aviv, would bring the subsidies allocation down to IL1,000m. Joined by other Likud leaders in sharp criticism of the Government's economic management, Mr. Ehrlich also demanded other cuts in the budget, totalling IL4,000m.

Rabin: Steps to a near-war economy

PRIME MINISTER Yitzhak Rabin said last night that yesterday's Cabinet decisions on prices were designed chiefly to get "terms" to consume less and produce more. Speaking at a dinner in honour of EEC leader Francois Ortoli (see page 2), the Premier said the Government's economic measures were aimed at adjusting our society to a quasi-war economy without disrupting the normal way of life.

Mr. Rabin, however, said Raphael's query presented "an admirable opportunity to make it absolutely clear that no change has occurred in Israel's policy on this matter. Israel is not a nuclear state. Israel will not be the first state to introduce this kind of weapon into the Middle East." Informed sources said Rabin and Dayan have not met privately since their meeting in Rabin's office last month — their first for over year.

An important decision it will pay you to make TODAY!

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN TALKING ABOUT CHANGING YOUR OLD KITCHEN CUPBOARDS? MAYBE YOU'RE ABOUT TO MOVE TO A NEW FLAT, AND NOW IS THE TIME TO REALIZE YOUR PLANS TO MODERNIZE YOUR KITCHEN AND MAKE IT MORE EFFICIENT. THIS MONTH, "RIM" OFFERS YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO PUT IN ONE OF ITS WONDERFUL KITCHENS AT SPECIAL DISCOUNT PRICES. 15% DISCOUNT UNTIL MARCH 31.

See the details that make the difference!

1000 POSSIBILITIES IN THE KITCHEN OF THE CENTURY.

PESSACH CAMPAIGN 15% DISCOUNT UNTIL MARCH 31

Jerusalem: 7 Rehov Koreish, Tel. 02-226690.
18 Rehov Shlomzion Hamalka, Tel. 02-221949
Tel Aviv: 156 Derech Petah Tikva, Tel. 03-261339
32 Rehov Herzl, Tel. 03-826171.
108 Rehov Ben-Yehuda, Tel. 03-232546, 238011
Haifa: 23 Derech Hatat Golani, Tel. 04-532569.
67 Rehov Herzl, Tel. 03-641028.
Beersheba: 58 Rehov Herzl, Tel. 057-76023

VISIT ONE OF THE "RIM" SHOWROOMS AND ASK OUR EXPERTS TO ADVISE YOU.

Top crime bosses to be netted in a few months, say police

By ARTHUR KEMELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Just a "few dozen" individuals are running the crime rackets in the three major cities, the police said yesterday, but it will be "some months" before the police will be in a position to move in on them. Police spokesman Shmuel Zachil told The Jerusalem Post that, as a result of the force emphasizing the

development of its intelligence system, information has come in over the past few months establishing that these individuals — he would not say whether or not they include persons known as respectable businessmen but did deny there were any senior army officers among them — run not only the protection rackets in Jerusalem, Haifa and this city, but also the drug trade, prostitution and smuggling.

Mr. Zachil said the chief difficulty in catching these "big fish" is gathering sufficient information to pierce the security barriers behind which they lurk. "They aren't the ones who get their hands dirty," he said. Asked whether the police would follow the American way of nailing such criminals through income tax offences, the spokesman said he was unaware of any special cooperation with the tax authorities at this stage of the police investigation.

Notice to Our Readers

The Jerusalem Post is preparing a readers' survey, which will be conducted by the Israel Institute for Applied Social Research. Researchers are being positioned at some of the kiosks and stores where the newspaper is sold to obtain preliminary information from readers. We trust that our readers will cooperate with this effort to improve the performance of The Jerusalem Post.

End-of-war talk shifted into low gear by Arab silence

By DAVID LANDAU
Jerusalem Post Diplomatic Correspondent
THE END-OF-WAR initiative, launched three weeks ago in a blaze of public statements and press speculation, now seems to be receding to the less raucous realms of "quiet diplomacy." The main reason for this is the absence of any sign of interest from the Arab states in end-of-war talks. Without such sign, say officials here, the U.S. is not pressing Israel to specify what it would cede for an end-of-war pact. Foreign Minister Allon reported this to the Cabinet yesterday, following his meeting

with U.S. Secretary of State Kissinger last Friday. Another reason, however, is the feeling here — encouraged by some brusque upbraiding from Washington — that the earlier publicity and polemical debate surrounding the initiative have not done it any good. Washington's view — and it has now come to be shared in Jerusalem — is that such premature trumpeting could kill the initiative before its prospects can properly be explored. In keeping with the desire to explore in low key and slow tempo, the Prime Minister decided yesterday not to present the Attorney-General's report on end-of-war to the Cabinet for discussion.

Tourists! DUTY AND TAX FREE 30% reduction

WOMEN'S & MEN'S
SUEDE & LEATHER WEAR
Leather handbags department.
The leader of suede and leather.

SCHNEIDMAN

Tel Aviv 25 REHOV ZAMENHOFF.
(cor. 25 King George St.) Tel. 236665.
* Kibbutz Ayotet Hashahar.



THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy in the north, sunny in the south. A ridge over the eastern Mediterranean.

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Min-Max
Jerusalem	54	5-10	6-12
Golan	37	4-11	5-12
Nahariya	38	10-18	11-19
Safad	78	3-10	4-11
Haifa	54	11-17	12-19
Tiberias	65	9-19	10-21
Nasrath	65	6-12	7-14
Afula	56	9-16	10-18
Shomron	52	6-10	7-13
Tel Aviv	80	11-16	12-18
E-O Airport	82	10-18	11-19
Jericho	70	11-18	12-20
Gaza	55	10-17	11-19
Bearsheva	54	7-16	8-18
Beit	25	12-22	13-24
Tiran	28	14-21	15-22

Social and Personal

President Ephraim Katzir and Religious Affairs Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday took part in the dedication ceremonies of the Tikvatenu Club in the Sha'arayim quarter of Rehovot, built with the aid of the Landau family of New York.

Knesset Speaker Yisrael Yeshayahu yesterday visited Holon and addressed students at the Ort vocational high school there.

Prof. Ya'acov Menczel, Director-General of the Health Ministry, has been elected chairman of the Israel Council on Gerontology.

Moshe Rivlin, Director-General of the Jewish Agency, met yesterday with the members of UJA Overseas Programme 16, led by UJA national chairman Joseph and Leonard Streits and Irving Norry.

A delegation of the Federation of German Industries visited the Weizmann Institute yesterday. They were greeted by Dr. Benjamin Salomon, managing director of Yeda Research and Development Company, and were lunch guests of the Institute president and Mrs. Michael Seia.

Allen Alter, UPI's Jerusalem correspondent, will speak at the Jerusalem West Rotary Club on "Perspectives in Politics: A Foreign Correspondent in Israel" tonight, 7 p.m., at the King David Hotel.

The Lion Clubs of Jerusalem will meet Tuesday, March 16, at 8.30, at the Jerusalem Hilton for a Purim Eve party. All proceeds to the Guatemala Disaster Fund.

ARRIVALS

Miss Lowdermilk, widow of the late Prof. Walter Lowdermilk, and Mary Rose Black, at the head of group of members of the Christian Committee for Israel, from California.

Helmut Schirrmacher, Horst Geier, Siegfried Brueger and Karl Hartung, representing the German Police Association, for a visit as guests of the Israel Police.

Car overturns, driver killed

RAMLE. — Tel Aviv resident Shoshana Bernstein, 34, was killed yesterday when her car overturned on the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv road west of Latrun.

She lost control of the car, apparently when its right wheels veered off the road. Four soldiers who hitched a ride with her escaped with minor injuries.

"In another accident yesterday, a hit-and-run driver injured a 56-year-old woman as she crossed Rehov Schocken in Tel Aviv. The police has asked witnesses to come forward with the car's description, or that of the driver. (Itim)

FORTY EL AL pilots have volunteered to spend some of their leisure time abroad meeting with local Jewish communities to encourage immigration to Israel.

In deep sorrow we announce the death of our dear

Dr. MORDECHAI ETZIONY

(of Montreal, Canada)

The funeral will leave today, Monday, March 15, 1976, from the Sanhedria Funeral Parlour in Jerusalem, at 1 p.m.

THE FAMILY

In deep sorrow, we announce the death of

SOPHIE VITENSON

The funeral took place yesterday, Sunday,

March 14, 1976, at Holon Cemetery.

The Family and Friends

A consecration and memorial service for

Grandma (Ethel) Lyons

will take place at Beit Yitzhak on Thursday, March 18.

Those wishing to join the family are asked to be at the graveside at 4.00 p.m.

THE RUBIN ACADEMY OF MUSIC JERUSALEM

extends deepest sympathy to Mrs. Gitta Sherover friend of the Academy's Friends' Association on the passing of her husband

MILES SHEROVER

Histadrut and Mapam pare Treasury demands

By ASHER WALLFISH

Jerusalem Post Reporter

MAPAM ALLIED itself with the Histadrut in a top-level Alignment economic forum yesterday — the "Decisions Committee" — to cushion the impact of the subsidy cuts on low-income earners, and put a brake on the Treasury's demand to make the public pay realistic prices for basic staples.

The rise in the price of subsidised staples will in no case exceed 25 per cent, the economic forum decided, even though the true rise should be between 35 and 50 per cent, according to the Treasury, based on the currency devaluations, the increase in production costs and the shifts in world market prices.

The average rise in the price of all 12 staples, "basketed together," will be closer to 23 per cent, according to Mapam's Aharon Efrat, MK, who attended the "Decisions Committee."

Mapam and the Histadrut were pleased last night at the forum's decision to freeze the newly increased prices of staples for six months at least.

Histadrut Secretary-General Yeruham Meshel said at the meeting that the Treasury's initial proposal for

increases in the price of subsidised staples had been very exaggerated. However, Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz said there was no critical gap between the Treasury's approach and the Histadrut's approach.

Two Labour members of the "Decisions Committee" were in a clear minority when they argued that the price-rise in staples was not steep enough. David Coren, MK, said the Government could not afford to allocate so much for subsidies. Senta Yosephal said that, after the initial 23 to 25 per cent rise now, a system of "creeping increases" at the rate of two per cent per month should be instituted — on the pattern of the creeping devaluations — until such time as the Israel consumer was paying the world market price for his staple commodities.

The "Decisions Committee" meets once again on Wednesday, this time to consider ways of allocating more money to the Health Ministry than is scheduled in the 1976/77 State Budget, and easing the financial plight of the sick funds without placing too heavy a burden in dues on sick fund members.

Mapam has been given to understand that the Treasury will go some way meeting its demands at Wednesday's meeting.

BOTH SIDES WIN

Treasury-Defence Ministry budget squabble resolved

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The much-publicized difference of opinion between the budget experts at the Defence Ministry and their opposite numbers in the Treasury was resolved at yesterday's Cabinet session by the expedient of a postponement.

The Defence Ministry asked for IL1,000m. more than its slice of the budget cake, on the grounds that its costs would increase by that amount, at least, during the year. The Treasury countered that the budget had envisaged a rise of 25 per cent over the year in estimates of all ministries, since it did not believe that the ministries should have to bear the full brunt of the anticipated 32 per cent rise in the Cost-of-Living Index.

The Cabinet yesterday agreed by consensus, without taking a vote, that the overall budget total would not be increased. The Defence Ministry would operate according to an estimated price rise of 25 per cent, the Cabinet ruled; but if it emerged later in the year that prices rose more, the Cabinet would take up the matter once again.

The \$150m. worth of U.S. military aid which would be changed into

pounds for defence spending locally would be calculated in pounds at the official exchange rate prevailing on the day of the exchange, the Cabinet said. (Treasury planners had originally proposed a flat rate of TL8.5 to the dollar.)

These decisions came at the end of a classified discussion on various aspects of the defence budget.

Last week Defence Ministry budget experts leaked to journalists that if the extra IL1,000m. was not forthcoming, the IDF would have to reduce its training plans, and important development projects would be cut.

The Cabinet decision seems like a victory for Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz, in the short run at least, since he has insisted on not increasing the 1976/77 budget total in the face of pressures from many quarters.

However, the assurance to Defence Minister Shimon Peres that the Cabinet will discuss his request for more money if his costs prove to be more than anticipated is practically an admission that the Defence Ministry will get a supplementary budget during the year if it needs one.

Almogi: Economies in Jewish Agency

By JUDY SIEGEL

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Nine weeks into his job as chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Executives, Yosef Almogi intends to streamline and revamp departments and introduce austerity measures according to the tenor of the times.

Meeting with reporters in his newly but simply decorated Jerusalem office yesterday, Almogi said that the number of overseas trips taken by Agency and WZO officials will be cut. "It's impossible to do one's job as a member of the Executive or head of a department without travelling abroad," he noted. "But there is no reason why every member of the Executive must attend every international meeting."

Almogi has spent five of the first nine weeks of his chairmanship on business abroad — at the Brussels Conference on Soviet Jewry, at the World Jewish Congress meeting, and at a conference of Israel's ambassadors in Costa Rica. From now on, he will "spend as much time

here as I can, getting to understand the problems and formulating solutions."

The Executive chairman, with the help of his newly appointed adviser, Gedaliah Doron, will take a fresh look at the existing structure — "which goes back 40 or 50 years" — and eliminate superfluous units. He also hopes to change the image of Agency emissaries, and perhaps send "multi-purpose" emissaries to coordinate various activities and save money.

Almogi asserted that he has been received "very well" by most of the 6,000 Agency and WZO employees. Structural and administrative improvements, he said, can be accomplished without "hurting" the employees (there will be no layoffs or dismissals). But he won't hesitate to "step on some toes" to update the organizations.

In addition to examining alyas and absorption procedures, Almogi will focus on Jewish education in the Diaspora ("a monumental job") and making contact with the 60,000 Jewish lecturers and professors in American universities.

He reported that at the Costa Rica meeting of ambassadors, where Foreign Minister Yigal Alon was present, it was agreed to require the diplomatic representatives to establish strong contacts with the Jewish community in each country. The WZO will send a representative as well "in a matching operation" to help the ambassador.

Asked about reports of criticism in the Knesset against his retention of Knesset membership, Almogi maintained that he had expressed willingness, after his selection as chairman, to leave the Knesset. But "my friends urged me not to." Any way, two of his predecessors, David Ben-Gurion and Moshe Sharet, held both offices simultaneously.

'Savoy accused' not pressured

LYDDA. — The military court here decided yesterday morning to accept the statements of the five men on trial for the Savoy Hotel terrorist attack one year ago, despite claims by the accused that the statements were extracted under pressure.

The decision was made after judges heard the five men's claims that they were beaten and threatened during interrogation. The judges said the men had been checked by doctors periodically during their questioning. They had never complained to the doctors, and their bodies bore no evidence of physical mistreatment. Nor did they complain to the court when they were brought in for extension of their custody.

The five men are Mussa Altallaka of Zarka, in Jordan, who was taken prisoner in the rubble of the hotel; Hamed Naim, Ahmed Darwish, from the Latakia camp in Syria; Issa Ibrahim Mohammed Alridi, Dumlat, Egypt; Maher Ibrahim Mohammed Alridi of Dumlat; and Mohammed Abbas Darwish Halil, also of Dumlat.

The last four were seized at sea, after they allegedly brought arms and explosives for the attackers. The trial resumes on April 22.



Fakery, foolishness, carousing and uproarious singing — at a Jerusalem kindergarten yesterday. (Elishu Harati)

Fakery, foolishness and fun as Purim begins tonight

By JUDY SIEGEL

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Fakery, foolishness, carousing and uproarious singing become acceptable — for a day — when the feast of Purim begins tonight in most of Israel and the Diaspora.

The holiday, on which even the most staid and devout let themselves go, marks the Jews' deliverance from destruction by Haman during the reign of Persian King Ahasuerus over 2,300 years ago.

But the residents of Jerusalem, Tiberias, Safad, Lydda and other cities which were walled at the time of Joshua will have to restrain themselves until tomorrow night — Shushan Purim — to begin their merry-making. The traditional reason for the delay is that Jews who lived in the walled Persian capital of Shushan were still defending themselves on the 14th of Adar and couldn't rejoice over their rescue until the following day.

Today is the Fast of Esther, a subdued prelude to the celebrations, commemorating the Jewish queen's ordeal before she denounced Haman to the king for plotting against her people. Despite the fast, many Jews will spend the day preparing parcels of food for mishloach manot to friends, as well as signing cheques as gifts to the poor. Youngsters, on school holiday from today through Wednesday, may assist in the baking of hamantaschen cakes (Haman's pockets, or ears, as they say; Hamek, has it — Haman's ears). A return for their Purim gelt (money).

Synagogues will be crowded this evening and tomorrow morning (in

the unwalled cities) with whole families listening to the reading of the Megilla. The courage of Esther and Mordechai will be recalled and the name of the accused Haman drowned out by noisemakers and stamping feet as the parchment scroll is unfolded and read as a letter.

The afternoon is set aside for lavish family meals, recalling the royal banquet at which Esther obtained the annulment of Haman's evil decree.

Youngsters (and a few oldsters) are already in the streets on their way to parties in homemade or expensive store-bought costumes. Standard cowboys, Indians, Mordechais and Esthers were among the most popular, but a few Kiasinger masks were visible.

The Education Ministry has asked school principals to discourage the use of dangerous and noisy toys by their pupils during Purim. It has also distributed coloured-picture exhibits of Purim celebrations in various Jewish communities among classes.

The Tourism Ministry has given out thousands of miniature printed megillot — colourful and with an English translation — to tourists at "recognized" hotels, as well as homestays and other gifts.

Forty Purim assemblies, organized by the Jerusalem Municipality, will be held in synagogues and community centres around the city on Shushan Purim.

A special exhibit of Purim scrolls and drawings has opened at Hechal

Shlomo through Thursday, sponsored by the Israel Museum, Hechal Shlomo and the municipality. Charles Chaplin films will be shown at the Museum tomorrow.

TV and radio have also been mobilized to sustain the joy of the holiday. A live reading of the Book of Esther will be broadcast on the First Programme tonight at 6.06 p.m. At 9.30 Wednesday evening, TV will show a Purim programme on which citizens will advise the Government and explain how they would cure the nation's ills if they were ministers.

Sarah Honig adds from Tel Aviv that Purim greetings from 42 alyas activists in the Soviet Union were received by President Ephraim Katzir yesterday: "We send you our warmest wishes for the holiday marking the redemption of Jews from the forces of darkness and evil. We have not forgotten their example today."

Thousands of new immigrants will take part in holiday celebrations, with many of them preparing mishloach manot for soldiers.

Dozens of teachers and students of the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design in Jerusalem have travelled to Kfar Sussana in Upper Galilee, helping local children make street decorations, Purim costumes and outdoor stages for performers.

At Kfar Habad, where holiday celebrations are among the most jubilant, Hasidim have been working for days, preparing food parcels for bereaved families, prisoners, new immigrants and the hospitalized.

EEC pact: More than trade

Jerusalem Post Staff

Francois Ortoli, president of the Commission of European Communities, last night expressed the hope that Israel's trade agreement with the EEC will also become an agreement for true international cooperation and progress towards peace.

Speaking at a dinner given in his honour by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin at the King David Hotel, Ortoli said that the European Communities would want to become a helping factor in reaching peace in the Middle East, although they do not intend offering a solution of its own.

Ortoli agreed with Rabin that the agreement, which Israel signed last year when the EEC was very important, stressing that he was aware of the fact that Israel was importing more from the nine EEC countries than it was selling to them. "But with the new agreement that European market is open to you," he stated, "and I hope you can sell more."

Brothers guilty in slaying of Golan Druse

NAZARETH. — The Abed brothers of Kiryat Shmona, who confessed to the slaying of a Golan Heights Druse in an argument last December, were convicted of manslaughter in the District Court here yesterday.

Ovadia and Arye Abed stabbed Attas Abu Salah, 17, during a brawl between youth from Kiryat Shmona and from Golan Druse villages outside a cinema. The brothers confessed when the charge was



Ortoli (Yisraeli)

He hoped that the new joint committee which has been set up will create closer links between Israel and the EEC and will create more economic progress for Israel.

changed from murder to manslaughter, indicating the act was not premeditated.

Golan Druse, licensed by the crime, ended their protest only after a formal sukkha (reconciliation ceremony) was arranged between the Abed and Abu Salah families. The ceremony was attended by dignitaries from both sides, including Deputy Prime Minister Yigal Alon.

The Abed brothers will be sentenced on March 20. (Itim)

CIVIL SERVANTS

(Continued from page one)

wages and benefits given in municipalities, state companies and other public offices the Barkai recommendations "can be implemented neither in letter nor in spirit."

The secretariat also opposed the Barkai recommendation that wages in the public service be frozen. It said workers who have not received a specific allowance should receive a seven per cent wage increase in the coming two years "on condition (the increase) will not exceed that to production workers." (The recent wage agreement between the Histadrut and the industrialists provides for a maximum six per cent wage increase this year and a further three per cent in 1977.)

The resolution can be expected to arouse sharp criticism in several labour federation departments. When the Barkai Committee was established, Histadrut Secretary-General Yeruham Meshel pledged to implement its recommendations, and leaders of the trade union department last week agreed to accept its report.

In Jerusalem, personnel in several Treasury departments — the Budget Division, the Economic Planning

Authority and the Economic Adviser's Bureau — joined their voices yesterday to those who support the Barkai recommendations. "The special allowance is damaging to the economy and should be abolished," one of their spokesmen, Shaul Yemal, told The Jerusalem Post.

More than 50 Education Ministry workers in Jerusalem have signed a declaration approving the recommendations. They call on fellow civil servants who already receive the increment to agree to have it phased out gradually. To the majority who do not receive it, they appeal to forgo their claim in view of the strained condition of the country's economy, the Ministry spokesman said.

PETER BLUM

or anyone knowing his whereabouts is kindly requested to contact the undersigned concerning the estate of his mother, PAULA DAVID, formerly ROSENSTERN, nee LEVY.

Harry Koob, Advocate
P.O.B. 84, Tel Aviv
Tel. 521882

Gidron approved as director of Communications

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Abul Moshe Gidron's appointment as Director-General of the Communications Ministry was approved at yesterday's weekly Cabinet session. The appointment takes effect on April 1.

Gidron, 50, has just completed a tour of duty as head of the IDF Manpower Branch. He is married with one son. A second son, Segen Ilan Gidron, fell in the Yom Kippur War.

Gidron joined the Palmah in 1949 before graduating from high school. He became a radio operator on an "Aliya Bet" immigrant ship and in 1948 acted as regimental signals officer in the Palmah's Yiftah Brigade. In the intervening years, he moved up through the ranks of the IDF's Signal and Electronics Corps, heading it for six years (1966-1972).

Leaving the army in 1972, he took over Koor Industries, Electric and Electronic Division and also served as director of Telrad Ltd. (manufacturing communications equipment). In 1974 Gidron was invited to return to the IDF to head the Manpower Branch with the rank of lieutenant general.

He is a graduate of the U.S. Army's Advanced School of Signals and Electronics.

Young Guard denounces Labour 'forum'

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The Labour Party's Young Guard last night heard speaker after speaker denouncing the recent establishment of the party's new steering forum, which includes Golda Meir. The speakers also strongly attacked the party's custom of making decision in select forums, effectively excluding broader representation.

The remarks were made during a debate on social-economic issues.

The Young Guard, in a resolution, called on the Government to adopt the long school day and universal hot lunch plan, with better-off parents to be charged for the service.

Another resolution scored the authorities for their "ineptness" in cracking down on illegal capital and tax evasion, and called on them to apply stringent punishment for convicted offenders.

Egged receives IL25m. loan to pay salaries

By YITZHAK OKED

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Egged bus cooperative will pay February wages to its 5,000 members and 4,000 salaried workers on Wednesday — two days later than the usual monthly payment on the 15th.

The money was made available through a IL25m. Bank Hapoalim loan.

The cooperative is still short of IL15m. to pay taxes and debts to creditors. It also needs IL15m. to pay half of the "13th month" bonus pay due in about two weeks.

Because of factional manoeuvres, the 30-man management of the cooperative did not meet yesterday. The 11 members of the opposition Alternative faction walked out leaving the assembly without a quorum. Alternative claimed that the secretariat did not offer any concrete proposals on how to improve the financial plight of the cooperative.

The management is to meet again on Thursday.

BORDER POLICE IN NAZARETH

NAZARETH. — Border Police patrols began to operate here Saturday night, to assist the police in maintaining order and preventing violence.

Police sources said this step was not connected to the political situation in the city, which three months ago elected a Communist mayor.

Border police units were recently assigned to patrol Haifa streets at night, and have been doing so in Tel Aviv for over a year. (Itim)

Keren Kayemeth Leisrael
(Jewish National Fund)

is pleased to welcome to Israel

The California Christian Committee for Israel

and to announce the dedication of the

Dr. WALTER CLAY LOWDERMILK MEMORIAL FOREST

which will take place on Wednesday,
March 17, 1976, near Tur'an in Galilee.

To Park Hotel, Tel Aviv

I enjoyed my stay at your Hotel and especially appreciated your courtesy towards my wife and 4 daughters, and all the members of my group. I look forward to seeing you again.

Shalom

Pat Boone

Shippers suspend container service to Israeli ports

By YACOV FRIEDLER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Zim and the American Export Lines yesterday temporarily suspended their large container ship service to Israel, as the ships can no longer receive proper service at Haifa or Ashdod ports. Two of their ships have already been diverted to Piraeus, where they will unload American imports which then will be brought to Israel in other ships.

In the Haifa Port container terminal, the big gantry, which loads and discharges the containers from the ships, was shut down last Thursday, following a breakdown in the motor of the generator. At Ashdod the container terminal, which includes an identical crane, has never been operated as the stevedores and management have not yet agreed on working conditions.

In addition, the Elat container terminal has been paralysed for the past three weeks by a strike of stevedores.

The 25,000-ton Zim-Montreal, which arrived here on the last leg of its Far-East-America-Europe-Israel route last Thursday, had managed to unload 25 big containers of imports when the crane broke down. Because the line runs on a

long delay, and the ship's running tight schedule which permits no costs are \$25,000 a day, Zim decided not to unload 89 additional containers with the aid of the port's conventional cranes, as this would have taken too long.

A port spokesman told The Post that everything is being done to expedite the repair and complete it within a fortnight. A spare part is to be brought from the unused Ashdod crane, and a reserve motor will now be bought abroad, despite the heavy costs. At the same time, the port is completing a second big crane within a month, so that in future no such mishap is likely to occur again.

The Shipping Council's plea for the intervention of Commerce Minister Haim Bar-Lev to settle the Elat strike has so far had no results. Council Secretary Arye Mehalia said that a Haifa firm had ten containers with \$100,000 worth of exports ready for dispatch to Africa, and already feared losing the customers as a result of its inability to deliver the goods. The Council will consider sending exports through the Suez Canal if the strike continues, although this might deal a lethal blow to the Port of Elat.

Nazi's life term stopped 'for reasons of health'

ROME. — Italian authorities said yesterday they have suspended temporarily the life sentence of convicted Nazi war criminal Herbert Kappler, because he is gravely ill. Defence Minister Arnaldo Forlani said the decision was taken on the advice of doctors at Rome's Celio Military Hospital. Kappler, 63, was moved to the hospital last month from Gestapo military prison.

Officials have refused to confirm a published report that Kappler was fatally ill with stomach cancer. They said only he was suffering from severe stomach pain. The former colonel was convicted of responsibility for the massacre on March 24, 1944, at Rome's Ardeatine Caves, in a more than 10-to-1 reprisal for the partisan bombing attack on soldiers marching along Via Rasella. The caves now are a memorial to all Italians killed fighting for freedom.

West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and Kappler's wife Anneliese appealed to the Italian Government earlier this month for his release because of his illness.

"My husband has only a few days of life left. I appeal to President Giovanni Leone and Italian public opinion to permit Herbert to spend these last days in the warmth of his family," Mrs. Kappler said.

She has commuted monthly from Germany to visit Kappler since their marriage in April 1972, following a courtship by mail. She staged a hunger strike several years ago to back demands for his release, but they were rejected. Prof. Elia Toaff, Chief Rabbi of Rome, said in a statement that the Jewish community had no opposition to Kappler's release for medical reasons, as long as he was not permitted to leave Italy. (UPI)

Bail set for suspect in tot's abduction, search intensified

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The police yesterday said they feared an attempt would be made to smuggle two-year-old Yuval Ginzberg, kidnapped two weeks ago from his father, out of the country.

They asked for the remand of a suspect in the kidnapping, Boaz Rabin of Yotvillya, with whom the boy's mother had allegedly been living while getting a divorce from the father, Aharon Ginzberg. But the Magistrate's Court decided the police search for the child could continue unimpeded with Rabin free on IL45,000 bail.

The court ordered Rabin's passport held by the police, so he could not leave the country.

Neither the police nor private detectives hired by the father have been able to produce any leads in the case, and they have intensified the search. They have received calls from various parts of the country from people claiming to have seen the boy and his mother, Eiva. But the calls have all proved dead ends. Yuval was allegedly kidnapped by two brothers, Aharon and Yehoshua Ginzberg, who are suspected of entering Ginzberg's Bat Yam flat and knocking him unconscious. They later identified Rabin as the man who sent them on the job and were themselves released on bail.

The boy was placed in his father's custody pending completion of the divorce proceedings.

Students protest politicization of their unions

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Some 40 Tel Aviv University students yesterday picketed Herut headquarters at Metzudat Ze'ev against the increasing politicization of student unions.

The students were denied a permit for a simultaneous protest at Labour Party headquarters on Rehov Hayarkon.

The students, all of them non-partisan, stressed that their protest was aimed at all of the country's political parties for attempts to infiltrate student unions, plant their own people in leadership posts and influence policy.

Among the placards they carried was one which read: "Today's student functionaries are tomorrow's national leaders."

Knesset Member Moshe Shamir (Herut) promised the students that he would look into their complaints.

Police hold suspected witness to Elbaz death

TEL AVIV. — A youth suspected of witnessing the killing of Claude Elbaz in the Jaffa flea market last week was remanded into 15 days' custody by a magistrate here yesterday.

The youth, David Deri, denied any connection with the murder. He said he had been seized after he tried to call to his friend, Charlie Ben-Simon, one of the three brothers being held in a cell at the Kiryat Ono police station. He claimed he was beaten by police and handcuffed despite his wounds.

The judge who issued the remand ordered a physical examination to determine whether the suspect's claims were justified.

Deri is the fifth suspect arrested in the case. (Itim)

OLD-AGE HOMES in seven locations throughout Israel, containing 720 residential units, are being built by the Jewish Agency as part of a programme aimed at making life easier for elderly immigrants, Jewish Agency treasurer Arye Dulain announced yesterday while on a tour of Kiryat Yam, near Haifa.

Civil service protest silences radio, halts postal services

By AARON SETNER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Israel Radio was silent, children waited in vain for Educational TV to flash on the screen, you couldn't buy a postage stamp or claim your benefit cheque, and you could have entered the country unexamined with a million dollars' worth of dutiable merchandise.

That was life in Israel yesterday as an estimated 25,000 civil servants — angered by the recommendations of the Barkai Committee — quit work to attend "exploratory meetings" on how to preserve their *to'afot yimudot*, "specie" allowances based on job duties considered out of the ordinary.

The work paralysis lasted from 8 a.m. till noon and affected the Treasury's income tax, property tax, customs and excise divisions, the postal system and related Communications Ministry activities, and the National Insurance Institute.

A last-minute appeal by Civil Servants Union chief Haim Bernstein failed to sway the workers' committee leaders from springing the sanctions, and shortly after 11 a.m. the Treasury announced it would deduct four hours' time from the workers' wage accounts as a penalty.

A Broadcasting Authority official said The Jerusalem Post yesterday that all workers there turned up and all programmes were prepared as usual. "But that's as far as we got," he said. "You see, the transmitters belong to the Communications Ministry. If their engineers don't switch on the transmitters, nothing goes on the air."

Except for Galed Zahal (the Army programme) and Arab-language broadcasts from neigh-



Jerusalemites queue up outside the main entrance to the National Insurance Institute building on Rehov Ben-Shimon yesterday morning. They waited till noon, when the workers inside stopped their protest strike. (Rahamim Yisraeli)

bouring countries, nothing could be heard all along the dial except for a 400-cycle modulated tone interrupted on the hour by a three-minute newscast. This was allowed on the air by the engineers as an accommodation to the public.

At Ben-Gurion International Airport, customs inspectors' stations were deserted, and tourists as well as returning residents strolled right through to the

street outside. In the departures terminal nobody asked travellers for their travel tax vouchers.

According to Avner Michaeli, spokesman for the National Insurance Institute, "a handful of spirited workers at one point said they were going back to work and asked their fellow workers to join them. But it didn't work. The men and women were determined to preserve their *to'afot yimudot*."

IL648m. budget to improve quality of life in Tel Aviv

By SARAH HONIG

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Mayor Shlomo Lahat yesterday submitted to the City Council an IL648m. three-year development budget designed chiefly to improve the quality of life in the city. The annual operational budget of IL1,000m. was also presented.

The city has been operating on the development budget drawn up in 1971 by the administration of former Mayor (now Finance Minister) Yehoshua Rabinowitz. That budget initially amounted to IL420m., but, due to inflation, IL450m. has been spent on development up to the present time.

Mayor Lahat explained to the council that because it is not possible to predict what the economic situation will be by the end of the 1979/80 fiscal year, a good deal more than the IL648m. may be spent. He said that his development budget, differing greatly from his predecessor's, will concentrate on services, "and will not include any grandiose plans such as new museums, libraries, opera buildings, theatres, etc. Our aim is to improve the quality of life in times of economic hardship."

The mayor calculated that about a third of the development budget will be spent on public works projects and services in slums areas. More specifically, 16 per cent will be

earmarked for welfare services, remedial tutoring and extra-curricular activities for children and 15 per cent for improving the city's appearance.

Six new public toilets will be built for IL15m. The budget includes IL1m. for a new public air-raid shelter, meaning an addition of 11,000 square metres, one-third more than the shelter area now in existence. There are plans to replace the old fire department centre on Basel Street, in addition to purchasing more up-to-date and sophisticated fire-fighting and rescue equipment.

OVERPASSES

The city will also have five new overpasses ("at Rehov Kibbutz Hagaluyot, Derech Hashalom, Derech Lod in the Hatzikva quarter, at the end of Arlosoroff Street and at the Carlebach-Derech Petah Tikva intersection). Traffic lights will appear at 24 more intersections, and traffic lights in the central area will be regulated by a new computer system.

Some 120,000 metres of old roads in the centre of the city will be repaved, and 120,000 metres of new roads will be constructed. There will be 23.5 kilometres of new drainage canals to prevent flooding in various neighbourhoods, plus the replacement of 43 kilometres of old underground water mains.

Fifty-six new sanitation vehicles will be purchased. Plans call for a IL30m. fund for renovating the exteriors of old houses. Also budgeted are 380 dunnam of new parks, 22 dunnam of new boulevards, 94 dunnam of pocket parks, and a facility for Dizengoff Circle and the square outside the old City Hall building on Haik Street.

Two new high schools and 50 new kindergarten classes are planned. About half of the school buildings will be renovated. More breakwaters are to go up near the beaches, and a new swimming pool will be built in the Neve Shalom area.

Mayor Lahat stressed that at present the city is assured of funds for half of the development budget. The other half will depend on the whole country's financial condition and how willing the Government is to help the cities.

The operational budget for the 1976/77 fiscal year, beginning April 1, has grown from the present IL760m. to IL1,000m., mainly due to inflation. More than 70 per cent will go to salaries and to paying back loans. The deficit, however, will be proportionally lower than the outgoing year's budget. The IL174m. deficit of the present budget constitutes 23 per cent, but next year's IL210m. deficit will be only 21 per cent.

The number of workers employed by the city has not changed. Although some 194 posts have been abolished, as many new employees — mostly teachers, social workers and sanitation men — have been hired.

Tel Aviv inspector's prison term tripled after appeal

TEL AVIV. — City inspector Yisrael Danoch who appealed a four-month prison sentence for threats and trespassing, had his term tripled in District Court here yesterday.

According to the conviction, in October 1974 Danoch entered the office of David Yadid on Rehov Yavne in Tel Aviv. He said he was hired by Hagai Hachmon, and threatened damage to his person and property if Yadid continued seeing Hachmon's former wife. He was convicted of threats and trespassing, given four months in prison and a six-month suspended sentence.

Danoch appealed the severity of the sentence, and the prosecution claimed it was too light. Danoch, who had a series of previous convictions, including one for illegal construction, claimed the court was prejudiced against him.

During the appeal hearings, the president of the court, Dr. Ze'ev Zeitner, indicated Danoch's thick file and said "only in Israel could a man with a record of convictions like this be a city official."

The defence attorney, Adam Frost, replied that Danoch had succeeded in organizing car parks in the city where others had failed — because he inspired fear.

"That shows what we've come to," the judge reported.

Judge Zeitner, along with judges S. Wallenstein and Y. Ben-Dror, noted that Danoch had five convictions for similar crimes, each carrying maximum sentences of three years in jail. They said he had received light sentences in the past. At this time of "spreading violence in Israel" they decided to increase his sentence to one year. (Itim)

2-hour protest delays flights

By ZE'EV SCHUL

Jerusalem Post Aviation Correspondent

BEN-GURION AIRPORT. — All civilian air traffic in Israel and five international flights were halted yesterday morning during a two-hour warning strike by the 80 members of the National Association of Flight Controllers.

The controllers held the 8-10 a.m. protest over what they consider the unwarranted suspension from work of a staff committee member, Moshe Bleiberg. He is charged with breach of airport discipline.

Bleiberg will remain suspended on orders of the Civil Aviation Authority until his case is heard. The controllers maintain that the authorities are being too harsh and that there was no need to suspend him.

The airport spokesman, however, claimed that Bleiberg had had at least five previous suspensions for different disciplinary and flight-safety rule infringements and that he has another "professional" (safety) hearing pending before the director of the Civil Aviation Administration Yehuda Rabin.

Yesterday's strike delayed two El Al departures, one British Airways, one Air France and one TWA. Numerous inland flights were also delayed.

Cleaning woman found dead in penthouse

TEL AVIV. — A housekeeper was found dead at noon yesterday in the penthouse home of her employer, with a kitchen knife stuck in her throat.

The worker, 40, was reportedly lying in a pool of blood when her employer returned to her home on Leonardo da Vinci Street. The house was in order, and there were no signs of violence on the housekeeper's body, police reported.

Police suspect that the woman, who had reportedly been suffering from depression, committed suicide. The body was sent to the Institute for Forensic Medicine for a post-mortem. (Itim)

Central body to draft plans for J'lem area

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A special government unit is being set up to draw up plans for the Jerusalem area, Mayor Teddy Kolek said last night.

Kolek told the Municipal Council that the planning unit is a reaction to the spate of plans drawn up by various agencies on their own, each proposing different ways of widening the Jerusalem Corridor and ensuring Israel's sovereignty around Jerusalem through the creation of new settlements.

Kolek said he had been informed of the new unit by Justice Minister Haim Zadok, chairman of the Ministerial Committee on Jerusalem, who said the Interior Ministry will also have a role in it. Zadok could not be reached last night for comment.

Kolek criticized the expenditure of "hundreds of thousands of pounds" by Housing Minister Avraham Ofer for a plan by architect Shmuel Shaked for "Dol" (thickening) of Jerusalem, which Ofer has for the most part dismissed. He also criticized Premier Yitzhak Rabin for holding a meeting last month with Alignment ministers to discuss Jerusalem without inviting the mayor. In acting this way, said Kolek, the Prime Minister was breaking a practice of Israeli Prime Ministers since the city's reunification.

When he wrote to Rabin to object, said Kolek, he received an answer not from the Premier but from an aide, saying that his letter had been passed on.

Kolek praised the creation of the new planning unit.

In another matter, the Municipal Council heard a sharp argument over the naming of a street in the Sanhedriya-Murhavet quarter after Rabbi Yosef Dushinsky, a former head of the ultra-Orthodox Eda Haredit.

Councilman David Bergman of the National Religious Party asked if the matter could be reconsidered since residents of the area wanted the street named Ma'asot Hakoheanim, in tribute to the soldiers who had fought in the area. Afterwards, Bergman admitted that the letter he had received from 17 residents, some of them former paratroopers, asserted that all the streets in the new neighbourhood were named after "anti-Zionist" leaders close to Netural Zion.

Aguda members of the council objected to the request for a name change, declaring that if such a precedent were set they would have objections to names put forward by other parties.

By an 8-7 vote, the name Rabbi Dushinsky Street was confirmed.

Offer to ask end to ban on 'luxury' flats

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Housing Ministry spokesman Saturday night confirmed reports that Avraham Ofer, the Minister of Housing, will ask for an end to the ban on construction of "luxury" flats and villas.

The ministry's definition of "luxury" is a unit exceeding 110 sq.m. in floor space. The ban has been in effect for more than a year.

Ofer's request — to be made at this week's meeting of the Ministerial Committee — is prompted by the sharp decline in building starts and continuing fear of wide-scale unemployment in the housing industry.

Rain delays tennis start

Jerusalem Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The belated wintry weather is making a mockery of the Israel Lawn Tennis Association's plan to start its national league season in March. To date it has been possible to play only one match in the scheduled first two rounds of the competition.

Heavy rain forced the postponement of all the weekend's second-round matches, after the opening day's programme had been reduced to a single fixture because of saturated courts.

The association decided to get the season under way in early March — a month ahead of schedule — so that the country's top players would be match-fit for the big spring international tennis circuit in April.

Agudat Hassidei Habad Be'Eretz Yisrael

We give below a free translation of a Purim letter received from the Lubavitcher Rabbi, addressed to schoolchildren and youth.

By the Grace of G-d

Eve of Purim 5756

Brooklyn, New York



To Jewish Pupils
G-d bless you all!
Greetings and Blessings

At this time before Purim, you have surely given much thought to the story of Purim, as related in the Megilla (The Book of Esther). This is just a reminder of the special significance of this Festival for Jewish children and youth in all parts of the world.

The Megilla relates how the wicked Haman rose to power and planned to destroy all the Jews, young and old, women and infants, that lived in all the lands of King Ahasuerus. It also tells how things turned out, with Haman being hanged on the gallows he had prepared for Mordechai, the evil decree abolished, and a complete change in the situation from one extreme to the other; and the period became one of joy and festivity.

Our Sages of blessed memory relate the details: Mordechai and Esther, who knew what was happening, called on all the Jews to fast and pray and return to G-d, to His Torah and His Mitzvot. And after Mordechai had gathered thousands

upon thousands of Jewish children and taught them Torah, and inspired their hearts with love of G-d and love of the Torah to the point of mesirat nefesh (supreme self-sacrifice) — then G-d annulled the decree and made Esther's efforts successful, so that "for the Jews there was light, joy, gladness, and honour."

Thus the miracle of Purim came about mainly through the merit of the Jewish children and youth!

One of the reasons why the Torah gives us these details is to let everybody everywhere in all generations (for the Torah is eternal) know how great is the power of Jewish children who walk in the way of the Torah and Mitzvot to influence the fate of our people everywhere.

strength to triumph over all our enemies.

Each and every Jewish boy and girl, wherever they are, who learns Torah and carries out Mitzvot, adds strength and power to all Jews everywhere — especially in those countries where our enemies do not permit us to teach Torah to Jewish children and youth, and to fulfil the Mitzvot. How fortunate you are that you are not in such a plight, G-d forbid, and that you can learn Torah diligently and fulfil the Mitzvot to perfection. It depends only on yourselves and your will!

Dear children: Learn more Torah and increase your efforts in doing Mitzvot, and G-d's blessing will be with you and all the near and dear members of your family, may they prosper.

And in your zechut (merit), all our people will benefit, as it says in the Megilla: "for the Jews there was light, joy, gladness and honour" — so be it for us and for all Jews.

With love and blessing
for a Joyous Purim,
(Signed) Menachem Schneerson

THE 5 STAR TRADITIONAL PESACH SEDER

NOW'S THE TIME TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS FOR THE PAL HOTEL'S TRADITIONAL 5 STAR SEDER. CANTOR REUVEN FRUCHTER, ACCOMPANIED BY A MEN'S CHOIR WILL CONDUCT THE SEDER.



For reservations call the Pal Hotel Banquet Department Tel Aviv 03-455111

GET READY!

for the renewal of the now traditional spring happening — Tens of thousands of people from Israel and abroad will be taking part in the

ERETZ YISRAEL MARCH

Sunday and Monday, April 18-19, 1976
(3rd and 4th intermediate days of Pessah)
Eretz Yisraelis march to Jericho

The route is through the Judean Hills and the Jericho Valley, and the spring weather will be just right for families with children to participate.

Watch for further details.

March Headquarters



PURIM CABARET AT THE JERUSALEM HILTON

FEATURING THE PLATTERS AFTER MIDNIGHT

... and dance to the sound of the Pearls Show includes First Drink IL75.- per person not including service charge and taxes Have fun on March 17th, 1976 at the Cabaret starting from 9 p.m. on ... For reservations call 536151, ext. 3901 or contact the special desk in the Lobby

The Platters will be televised during their performance

Crucial stage for 'law of sea'

UNITED NATIONS. — The U.N. Law of the Sea Conference begins a climactic eight-week session today, spurred by the threat of an international free-for-all to control the oceans and their resources.

It is regarded as the most crucial session so far, according to Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe of Sri Lanka, President of the Conference, which began with two weeks of organizational meetings here in December 1973.

The Conference is the largest diplomatic gathering of its kind in history, with 156 delegations — including 12 non-U.N. members — invited, and more than 3,000 diplomats, lawyers and experts expected to take part.

Among the dozens of topics at issue are the width of the territorial sea over which coastal states can claim sovereignty, and the extent of the area beyond that over which they would exercise exclusive rights to all natural and mineral resources.

A major objective is to set up international machinery for exploiting the riches beyond the exclusive economic zone, for the benefit of all mankind, especially the developing nations.

There is wide agreement on a 12-nautical mile territorial limit. The limit began as a three-mile coastal strip determined by the range of a 17th century cannon ball, but it was extended by many countries to 12 miles and by some as far as 200 miles.

The Conference is also approaching consensus on a 200-nautical mile exclusive economic zone, which would take in some of the world's most important fishing grounds, as well as deposits of oil, gas and minerals.

No decisions will be final until a comprehensive package has been worked out. This involves, among other things, establishing rules for ensuring unimpeded transit rights through and over straits.

Without such guarantees a 12-nautical mile territorial sea would give coastal states a stranglehold over more than 100 key waterways, including the Straits of Gibraltar at the entrance to the Mediterranean, the Malacca Strait between Malaysia and Indonesia, and the Bab el Mandeb at the southern end of the Red Sea.

Other topics to be tackled by the conference and its three main committees are rules for "innocent" passage through territorial seas, the special problems of landlocked countries and archipelagos, the protection of the marine environment, rules for conducting scientific maritime research, and machinery for settling disputes.

Even if all goes smoothly during this session, due to end on May 7, a further negotiating round would probably be required. Delegates would then meet once again in Caracas, site of the first main session, for a final signing ceremony.

(Reuters)



Wall posters in China have not mentioned Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping in their attacks against him. But above is one poster which did: "Firmly determined to overthrow top capitalist leader Teng Hsiao-ping who refuses to admit his deviation." This photo was last week published in Japanese dailies. It was taken on February 24 from a moving train by a Japanese visitor in Hangchow, southwest of Shanghai. The last three characters at right are Teng's name.

Year after Vietcong takeover Soviet influence dominates Saigon

HONGKONG. — Life in Saigon under Communist rule is more expensive, but not totally dull or restrictive, and Soviet influence has increased.

This is the picture pieced together from information in letters mailed recently by Saigon residents to friends and business associates in Hongkong. The letters showed no signs of having been censored, although many were highly critical of the Communist rulers who swept into power last April after defeating the U.S.-backed South Vietnamese government.

The increase in Soviet influence is plainly visible in the many Russian movies shown at government-run theatres, and in high schools were students are required to learn Russian as a second language. No similar favoritism is shown toward China, which, like the Soviet Union, was Communist Vietnam's chief supporter in the Vietnam war.

"It's very clear that China has lost out to the Soviet Union in Vietnam," reported one letter-writer. "But the Chinese are not subject to any discrimination here as long as they don't do anything illegal."

Most of the complaints from the Saigon residents centre on the high price of nonstaple foods, and many say they find it difficult to make ends meet on an average monthly salary equivalent to \$25, set by the government. Under the former government, they earned about \$60 a month.

To help their friends, the Hong Kong residents have been sending money to Saigon.

Except for rice, a Vietnamese staple, the prices of most other foods have soared. Pork, chicken and most meats are regarded as luxuries.

Since the Communist takeover, the letter-writers report, there has been a move to reduce the population of Saigon, and truckloads of people are regularly driven to farms to help boost production. Other residents have been resettled in communities where help is needed to repair war damage.

Unlike in some Communist countries, the letter-writers say, the general public is not subjected to indoctrination classes. Communist propaganda material, however, is available in quantity at bookstores.

A few outdoor cafes continue to operate, although most lack customers, and residents still wear colourful western clothes. A gasoline shortage has all but eliminated the thousands of motor scooters which used to clog Saigon's streets. They have been replaced by bicycles.

Hundreds of prostitutes and bar girls have been rounded up and are now housed in special quarters under a rehabilitation programme. They do exercises in the morning before breakfast, study Communist ideology and are taught how to cook and sew, the letter-writers reported.

(AP)

Wallace-Carter showdown today

CHICAGO. — The Illinois primary today shapes up as another showdown between Jimmy Carter and George C. Wallace, with the odds on Carter.

The interest shifted to the Democrats since Ronald Reagan all but conceded his native state to President Ford the night of the Florida primary. Now it is Carter again head to head with Wallace in a state where neither did much campaigning.

Also going for a share of 156 Democratic delegates are Sargent Shriver, Fred Harris, and a man who says he is not running for president: Sen. Adlai E. Stevenson.

Stevenson is a kind of surrogate for Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley, who wants the Illinois delegation in his hip pocket for wheeling and dealing at the Democratic National Convention next July at Madison Square Garden.

A "Chicago Sun-Times" poll released two days before the Florida primary showed Carter ahead in Illinois with 25.2 per cent, followed by Shriver with 22.5, Wallace with 17.2 and Harris with 7.9. However, Wallace appeared to be gaining and the "Sun-Times" said the Alabama Governor "had a firmer core of voter support than other Democrats entered."

(UPI)

Kuwait planning to buy French missiles

KUWAIT. — Kuwait is negotiating with France to buy a Crotale surface-to-air missile network to boost its air defenses, the newspaper "Al Kabas" reported yesterday.

(UPI)

'Rhodesia recruiting mercenaries in Britain'

LONDON. — An undercover operation to recruit British mercenaries for Rhodesia is underway in London and South Africa, the "Sunday Telegraph" reported.

The paper's diplomatic correspondent, Norman Kirkham, wrote that veterans of the British Army and Royal Air Force were being offered up to £100 a week to help the white-minority regime of Rhodesian Premier Ian Smith combat black nationalist guerrillas.

"Enlistment papers are being circulated to ex-servicemen from addresses in central London and Cape Town," Kirkham wrote. "Some men are being asked to contact a post office box number in Pretoria."

He said 13 Britons who had signed on for commando duties were to leave from Ringway Airport in Manchester this week and that other mercenaries had flown out singly during the past few days. Another 15 have gone to work as security guards on farms close to Rhodesia's border with Mozambique, "the front line of defence against guerrilla raids."

The British Government has warned that those who recruit the men are breaking the Government's sanctions policy against Rhodesia — which had been a British colony until Smith's regime broke away in 1965 — and could face prison sentences of up to two years. (AP)

Black Muslims guilty of Zebra murders

SAN FRANCISCO. — Four Black Muslims were convicted here Saturday of taking part in the so-called "Zebra" murders two years ago, when 14 whites were killed at random as part of a racial religious cult's initiation rite.

The case became known as the "Zebra murders" after a special radio channel used by San Francisco police in their all-out drive to hunt down the killers who terrorized the city.

The defendants — J.C. Simon, 29, Larry C. Green, 23, Manuel Moore, 31, and Jessie Lee Cooks, 30 — were charged in only some of the Zebra attacks but all 14 murders and eight assaults were introduced in the trial because of the conspiracy charges.

The prosecutor's chief witness was Anthony Harris, a former member of the group. He testified that he accompanied the defendants who killed white people. Harris said the four were members of a "Death Angels" religious cult, an offshoot of the "Fruit of Islam," an organization which provided temple guards for the Nation of Islam (Black Muslim) religious sect.

The initiation rite for members of the "Death Angels" required each member to kill nine whites, Harris claimed.

The four accused are expected to face an appeal today. Their trial, which lasted a year, was the longest in California's history. They were indicted May 1974.

Four others indicted at the same time were later freed for lack of evidence.

(Reuters, AP)

French expect leftist gains

PARIS. — Second round local elections throughout France yesterday were expected to weaken President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing's position both at home and abroad.

The conservative-led government received discouraging results in last week's first round of the poll, with the Socialists winning 28.5 per cent of the vote.

The Communists have agreed to support the best placed left-wing candidates from the first round in yesterday's run-off.

According to a newspaper opinion poll on Saturday the combined Left, including the Communists, would win 54 per cent of the national vote if parliamentary elections were held now.

(Reuters)

WORLD SCENE The Angolan Marxists

BACKED BY CUBAN troops and Soviet arms, Dr. Agostinho Neto and his Movimento Popular de Libertacao de Angola (MPLA) have swept into a seemingly unassailable position in Angola. His rivals, Holden Roberto of the Frente Nacional Libertacao de Angola (FNLA) and Jonas Savimbi's Uniao Nacional para a Independencia Total de Angola (UNITA) are still talking defiantly of turning their war effort into a full-scale guerrilla operation which they claim could last for years.



Dr. Agostinho Neto (Camera Press)

Both the losing groups point out — with some logic — that Neto has little military power without his Cubans, Soviet and other East European advisers, and Soviet armaments ... and that foreign troops will never stay in Angola forever. But right now, the cold facts are that the MPLA has all these advantages in hand, and that its influence is spreading all over the country, except for the southern buffer zone in the hands of South African troops.

The battlefield in Angola is quiet now, but this is obviously to give Neto and his movement time to rehabilitate the war-torn country and to regroup his political strength and win more allies among the various tribal groups in the country. Neto has already called on his neighbours, Zaire and Zambia, to normalize relations with Angola despite the active part they had in backing his rivals in the past months of the struggle in the ex-Portuguese colony.

THE MPLA has been supported by the Soviets for many years now, and today it claims the political backing of 60 per cent of Angola's six million population. The movement was founded in Luanda by members of the Angola and Portuguese Communist parties. It stood "for the establishment of a united front of all patriotic forces in Angola engaged in the national liberation struggle" against Portuguese colonial rule.

It attracted only a small following of black and white city intellectuals, and in 1960 was expelled from Luanda. It carried on its activities in exile in Congo, Guinea, and afterwards in Kinshasa, Zaire, and in the end found refuge in Brazzaville, Marxist capital of Congo. Its present leader, Dr. Neto, joined the movement in 1967 and took it over in 1962.

Observers may dismiss the danger of Communism taking hold among the Angolans, as do most Westerners about other African nations. But the fact remains that while most Angolans probably have not the faintest notion what Marxism means, the MPLA leaders definitely do, for they are all dedicated and educated men.

Dr. Neto is a 54-year-old Lisbon-educated gynaecologist as well as being a revolutionary poet. It was his poetry which first brought him to the attention of the Portuguese authorities, who arrested him several times for what they considered to be seditious activities.

Over a year ago, I was in Portugal for a visit, and in talking to a young activist of the Popular Democrats, we discussed Angola. It was the time when most thinking Portuguese believed that, on gaining independence, this territory — unlike Mozambique — would retain close ties with Portugal in order to develop its potential wealth to the benefit of the two countries.

The young Portuguese believed a coalition of the three movements would rule the country and did not think the Marxist MPLA would prove to be a danger — even though, as he pointed out, Neto was a good friend of Portuguese Communist leader Alvaro Cunhal since their students days, when the Angolan studied medicine and the other studied law. He was proven wrong as the events now show.

MPLA from the beginning sought support from all classes and ethnic groups, particularly the intellectuals. But like the other Angola movements, its backing is ethnic. Neto himself belongs to the Mbundu, a part of the Kimbundu tribe, which comprises about a quarter of the population and is based east of Luanda. In ancient times the Mbundu's king was known as Ngola — hence the modern name of Angola, given by the

Portuguese when they conquered the Kimbundu in the 17th century.

Thus it was that the Kimbundu, through long contact with the Portuguese, were influenced by Western values and many Angolan intellectuals belong to that tribe. The movement had internal conflicts but Neto managed always to hold the upper hand. In the earlier years Neto sought support in his anti-Portuguese fight in the U.S., but he made no headway once it was learned he was Communist. It was different when he finally turned to Russia.

It was in the 1960s that the MPLA launched attacks in Angola with, of course, Soviet arms and training in Russia. Once MPLA even joined up with the FNLA, headed by Roberto, who is Zaire President Mobutu's brother-in-law, but the alliance was short-lived. The MPLA and the two other groups for over a decade fought the Portuguese — as well as each other — before independence came. The Portuguese always considered MPLA the weakest, and at one stage Portuguese troops virtually wiped out its forces.

AS THE PORTUGUESE began the process of moving out, the MPLA with the two other movements began forming a transitional government and planned elections before the November 11, 1975 independence date. But when fighting broke out in Luanda, MPLA took over the capital — with the Soviets by now sending in massive supplies of sophisticated arms and Cubans so that it took military control of the Kimbundu tribal heartland extending east of the capital. This explains why for months MPLA had only this strip across the country under its control before the Cubans were reinforced to the number which was able to swing the tide of battle against the FNLA in the north, and UNITA in the south.

Dr. Neto continues to deny his group has any tribal or racial bias when he is accused by Africans of having "too many mulattoes and whites" in his ranks. He says his movement is not inspired by Marx or outside forces and that "we are progressives interested in real democracy... in social reforms... in economic democracy."

But antagonisms run deep in Angola today, and Angolans will inevitably find out that it is easier to launch a war than to heal its wounds. Neto will also find that to occupy and control all of Angola is a feat which 60,000 Portuguese troops tried to do for 10 years without success.

Assad cancels state visit to France

By JACK MAURICE
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

PARIS. The indefinite postponement of the state visit to France of Syrian President Hafez Assad, who was due to arrive here today, marks a setback to French efforts to play a role in a Middle East peace settlement.

Assad's decision, which was prompted by the precarious political situation in Lebanon, was announced from President Giscard d'Estaing's office late on Saturday night.

Giscard was so eager to play host to Assad that only a few hours before the cancellation announcement — which seemed increasingly likely as the crisis in Beirut worsened — French officials were stressing that the visit would still take place.

But, in contrast to previous visits by foreign chiefs of state, there was no sign of the visitor's national flag and the French tricolour flying side by side along the Champs Elysees on Saturday. Hundreds of banners are usually visible several days before a VIP's arrival here.

The influential newspaper "Le Monde" devoted a nine-page supplement on Saturday to economic ties between France and Syria and to the Arab state's history. It was packed with expensive display advertisements by French and Syrian state-owned corporations and private business firms.

Japan beats P.I. in Olympic soccer

TOKYO. — One of Israel's opponents in the qualifying round of the Montreal Olympiad's soccer tournament, Japan, easily defeated the Philippines in Tokyo yesterday, 3-0.

The match opened competition in the Asian Zone Group 3. The two teams met in their second encounter on Wednesday.

If Japan wins, the team will meet South Korea in Tokyo on March 21. The second match between the two would be played in Seoul on March 27.

Other scheduled matches in the group 3 competition are: March 31 — Japan v. Israel in Seoul; April 4 — South Korea v. Israel in Seoul; April 11 — Israel v. Japan in Tel Aviv; April 17 — Israel v. South Korea in Tel Aviv.

(UPI)

Indians collapse against W. Indies

BRIDGE TOWN. — India's batting collapsed for the second time in the match, and they were beaten by an innings and 97 runs with two days to spare by the West Indies in the first cricket test match here on Saturday.

Final scores: India 177 and 214, West Indies 488 for nine declared.

LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH, O.K.?

You're having a marvelous trip, and to prove it, you have pictures, slides, maybe movies, ceramics, books, jewelry and assorted argot. Soon you'll have wonderful memories... if you want to continue that relationship you'll have to keep up with what's going on here. Now's the time to order The Jerusalem Post Overseas Weekly today by calling and get your news airmailed to you every week. The Jerusalem Post is the best source of information and not only for you and your family, but for your friends and neighbors who haven't been to Israel and who still aren't convinced. Order The Jerusalem Post Overseas Weekly today by calling (02) 528181 or using the coupon below... until the next time you're here. way to keep in touch with Israel.

THE JERUSALEM POST WEEKLY OVERSEAS EDITION

Yearly subscription rate (by Airmail)
Canada, U.S.A., Central America, South East Asia, Africa
United Kingdom, Europe
South America, Japan, Australia, New Zealand
THE JERUSALEM POST WEEKLY P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem
Please send THE JERUSALEM POST WEEKLY for one year to
Name _____
Address _____
My cheque for _____ is enclosed.
New subscriptions and changes effective within 3-4 weeks.

Society for the Advancement of Occupational Health in Israel

A conference on the occupational health aspects of factory planning and siting will be held by the Society on Tuesday, March 23, at the Israel National Academy for Sciences and Humanities, 43 Rehov Jabotinsky, Jerusalem.

PROGRAMME:

9.00 a.m. - 9.30 a.m. Registration
9.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m. Opening session:
Welcome, and general review of pre-view of factory planning as a one-time opportunity for prevention in Occupational Health: G. Ben-Or, Director, Ministry of Health; Michael Strumpf, Ph.D., noise control engineer, and Elisha Richter, M.D.

11.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. Coffee Break
11.30 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. Seminar-workshops:
1. Use of legal and regulatory mechanisms: Dr. D. Richter, E. Richter, M.D. R. Patai
2. Health Considerations in Factory Planning: E. Tharrell, M.D., Dr. N. Gruener
3. Engineering, health, and acoustic applications: P. Magnus, M. Strumpf

1.30 p.m. - 2.15 p.m. Lunch and Sandwich Break
2.15 p.m. - 5.15 p.m. Summaries of workshop recommendations and work plans for future action.
5.15 p.m. - 4.00 p.m. Annual meeting of Society, and Election of Officers and Board.

Professionals, students, workers and trade union representatives interested in industrial design, occupational and environmental health are invited to attend and contribute to the workshops' recommendations and action-programmes.

Registration fee: IL28 Society members and IL35 student members
IL30 for others (includes lunch)
Annual Society membership fee: IL25.
Further information from E. Richter, M.D., 3 Rehov Ben Gurion, Jerusalem Tel. 02-261277, evenings.

We accept advertisements for THE JERUSALEM POST and all other newspapers, at official rates.

I.D.L. ADVERTISING

110 Rehov Ha Givrol, Tel Aviv
Tel. 27117/8
Open continuously, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Free parking.

Hermon Ski Company Ltd.

Notice to Skiers

The heavy expenses in running the ski school have forced us to raise the fees for skiing lessons to the following:

	Weekday	Shabbat and Festivals
Lesson for children	IL18	IL 20
Lesson for adults	IL28	IL 30
Reduced-charge lesson for adults (for Ski Club members, students and soldiers)	IL25	—
Private lesson	IL80	IL120

Because of the big demand for skiing equipment, we cannot accept advance reservations. Our apologies to the public.

On Sunday, March 21, 1976

SKI INSTRUCTORS' COURSE

opens.

The course is intended for good skiers only.

Prospective participants should contact Naomi Well, Hageahim Guest House, Tel. 067-40137/8/9, 7-9 p.m.

Which of you can put up buildings made of blocks? Ariella is only building a wall. You Hiram put one block on top of another. He's building a tower. He will be an architect.

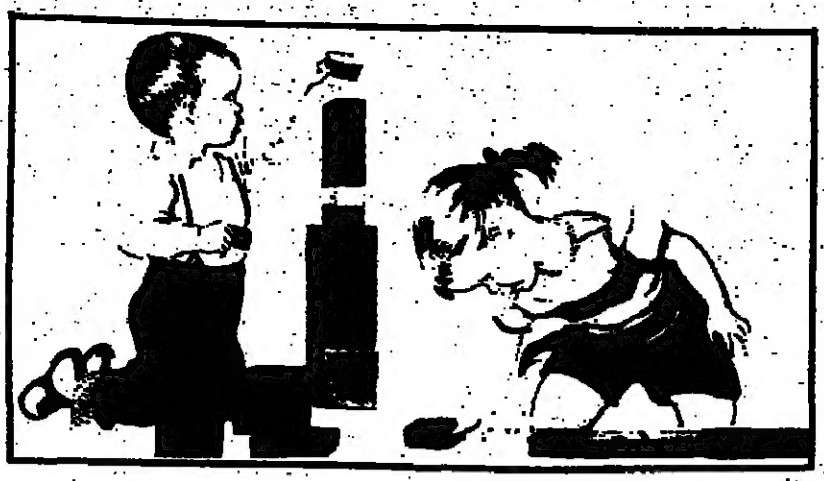
POOR ARIELLA, doomed for ever to build that wall, one brick alongside another, while Hiram, lucky boy, is clever enough to put one brick on top of another. Of course, he's the one who'll be an architect. The fact that there are quite a few Israeli women specializing in architecture, and even making a living doing it, doesn't seem to have occurred to the writer of the children's book, from which I've quoted in free translation above.

My two-year-old is into picture-books at the moment, which means we get through about 10 of them in an hour, and slowly but surely, this subtle woman-is-inferior propaganda is having its effect. "Ariella's stupid," she told me yesterday. "She can't do anything — and she cries all the time."

In these books, Ariella — or Yaffa, or Miriam, or whatever her name, as long as she's the girl — is invariably pretty, dressed in a clean frilly frock and ribbons (try and keep a ribbon in a small child's hair, or keep her looking reasonable in anything except jeans) — and passive. In fact the only emotion she shows (apart from petting any stray, small animals around) is fright and the only active thing she is allowed to do is running away (usually from larger animals).

Let me illustrate what I mean: In the book quoted above, "The Tale of Hiram and Ariella," all things come in threes. On page two, there are three small boys, all enjoying themselves on brightly painted bicycles. After that we have three birds, three kittens, all happily playing, and then we have the girls, on swings. Two are smiling, and the third is frightened. "Little Tami is crying and trembling; I want to get down, I want to get down," says the text. This is the only mention of fear in the whole book, and of course, it's the girl who has to express it.

After that, we have the boys out boating, then they play musical instruments, and finally, a girl is



Hiram the architect and Ariella the wall-builder.

Children's books — part of the male chauvinist conspiracy

By JOANNA YEHIEL / Jerusalem Post Reporter

allowed back on the scene — "only" making a fence, while the boy builds a tower.

The book makes another point, subtly, all the boys wear shoes, while the girls are almost always barefoot. Why that difference, for goodness sake?

THERE IS an even worse example of "putting the woman down." Called "Ke She ahaye gadol" ("When I grow up"), it is beautifully illustrated, showing what lies in store for children when they grow up. Let's see what they plan for our children:

Picture one shows the boy, a postman, complete with parcel. The girl, well, she's smiling — her "job" is to receive gracefully.

P.2 — the boy is a chef putting the finishing touches to a birthday cake. The girl sits at the table, ready to eat.

P.3 — The boy is a hunter, standing on the back of the lion he has just captured. (The lion is grinning away with joy). Where's the girl? Oh yes, she's hiding indoors, behind a curtain, stiff with fright.

P.4. At last, the girl has a real job — she's a beautiful, busy spraying the lion with perfume. The lion now has curls and a ribbon in his hair — and large tears rolling down his face. The implication is that what the girl is doing is bad.

Let me quickly turn over the other pages — boy policeman, stopping thieves while girl, dressed as a detective, is hiding in a tree. Boy is a

doctor, girl (of course) is a nurse (are there no women doctors in Israel at all?). Boy is a fireman, rescuing girl from burning house. Boy is an underwater diver, girl is a mermaid (!). Boy is an artist, girl a singer (only time she is given a worthwhile future). And, grand finale, boy appears in a spaceship — and the girl is sitting at a stall on the moon, ready to serve him cake! Presumably baked by a male chef.

There is another book, for slightly older children who are just beginning to read by themselves. One story is about a day in the life of a girl (helping Mummy make cake, then playing with the animals — all indoors), and of a boy — going out to play in the fields with a balloon, a kite, a model aeroplane, even a big umbrella. All active, exciting, enjoyable things to do, which a girl could and does do equally well. But there she is, stuck in the kitchen all day.

ISRAEL is not the only guilty party. Until the rise of women's consciousness-raising groups in the U.S. and Europe, this kind of book was sold there too (I have an old book, printed in America "Holiday at Grandma's Farm," in which the boys do all the interesting things like sliding down the hay rick, while the girls merely watch. Except, in one picture, where they are frightened by some geese.) Fright, tears, and passive watching, or mothering an animal or a doll is what these children's books used to "allow" a girl child to do.

Abroad, things are changing. Women are refusing to buy books which deny their female children the right to do the same things as their brothers. I have a new picture book, published in West Germany, called "Das sind wir — this is us." Without any words, the book shows life as it really is (or should be) — father helping powder the baby's bottom and dressing the children; children making a mess in the kitchen; the girl is wearing jeans, not the frilly dresses and ribbons so beloved of our book illustrators. In the evening, Dad helps Mummy put the children to bed. This is life as most modern children know it.

It's time our publishers opened their eyes.

DECIDING HOW MANY FLIES YOU CAN LIVE WITH

THE STUDY of genes has made great strides during the past several years, but the fear that scientists may produce whole generations of monsters in test tubes has cast a shadow on the subject.

Yet, says Professor M.M. Green, of the University of California at Davis, now completing six months as visiting Professor at the Technion's Department of Biology, "the potential for doing good through genetic engineering is tremendous. In appropriate hands it can accomplish the correction of genetic defects, and prevent many diseases which are only now being cured, and not always permanently." To sum up the evil versus good potentials, he noted: "I don't worry about creating 10,000 Moslems or 10,000 monsters in a test tube. But I do worry about the possibility of creating dangerous and hard-to-grow bacteria and grafting them genetically on commonly available ones."

What is the state of the art of genetic engineering today? "In mammals, it is still highly experimental. But with micro-organisms it is already a science and we can now change their genetic constitution almost at will," he said. Professor Green, who is 59, specializes in work with the vinegar flies that both vintners and orange growers in California. He has followed with great interest the attempts made to wipe out fruit-fly pests by irradiating the males so that the eggs fertilized by them will be sterile. Israel too has tried this method and even exported millions of irradiated male fruit flies.

Professor Green noted that despite this effort the fruit-fly has survived. "What the entomologists do realize is that in pest control you must compromise. It is probably impossible to eradicate the pest completely, and what we must aim at is to reduce the problem to a hazard that can be lived with." The entomologists tackled the problem biologically, but in all organisms the genes of infection are constantly mutating and in these mutations are developing resistance to new hazards. This is because most organisms have this genetic information stacked away somewhere, useless to them until a new stress situation turns up, when it will be used to develop resistance. This has clearly happened with insecticides.

Professor Green noted the recent example in Australia of the failure to eradicate pests totally by biological means. There a large-scale plan was

The state of genetic engineering

By YAAQOV FRIEDLER Jerusalem Post Reporter



M.M. Green

carried out to kill off the wild rabbit population, which does tremendous damage to farming, by virus-infected bait. "It killed about 80 per cent of the rabbits, but the natural resistance survived — a clear case of the survival of the fittest. And, rabbits being rabbits, the few soon multiplied, with offspring that have developed resistance to the virus."

Another biological fly control method that is being widely used is to eliminate the males by luring them into traps with a substance called pheromone, which is simply a sex attractant secreted by female flies. "This method, of course, only gets the males. But the reasoning is that if there are no males, there'll be no reproduction. The fly is the only insect, so far as I know, in which one is unlikely to get every last

male there is. "But even if you could, I am sure the females would develop a way of reproducing themselves without the aid of the male, as happens in some organisms," Professor Green said.

He believes that the fly problem can be contained, if not solved entirely, by genetic methods. "By creating large numbers of genetically defective flies you can create eggs that will not hatch. Probably even this will not be 100 per cent, certain. But what you must ask yourselves is how many flies you can live with, and then aim for this number — by genetic methods," he said.

He decided not to drive a car while in Israel, having simply been scared by the driving habits on the roads. "My drivers are kamikazes with Mogen Davids on their backs," he smiled sadly. He is also dismayed at "the mediocre level of the government. Where are the Jewish brains? Surely you can do much better. I know you can from my six months teaching courses at the Technion. The students are extremely bright, first class, and I only wish my students in California would know English as well as they do."

"I realize the tremendous things you have done in Israel. Israeli agriculture is an example of what you can do, and I see no reason why the same Jewish brains should not be put to work in other fields too," he said. He also appreciated the fact that "this country is a haven for every persecuted Jewish refugee. When I ventured to say that what we needed was not only refugees but a million immigrants from the West who would bring along their know-how, their efficiency, their intolerance of useless bureaucracy, and above all their Western upbringing, he said, 'you won't get them until there is a big change.'"

So I wondered, in the words of the old Arab proverb, "If the mother's an onion and the father's a garlic, how can the child smell sweet?" Prof. Green assured me that the answer is "Environment." The children of garlic and onions can be taught to smell sweet, and education is the key.

THE SEARCH FOR PERFECT BIRTH CONTROL

By GAMINI SENEVIRATNE

could become available within the next five to 10 years, it was revealed at a recent two-day discussion on Contraceptives of the Future at the Royal Society in London.

A woman enjoys a number of natural periods of infertility between pre-puberty and menopause. But so far science has been able to copy only two of them, via the two kinds of "pill" now available. The new vaccine is aimed at stimulating the pre-puberty condition, described as the "ideal state for a woman to be in," when she can be sexually active but incapable of conception. What it will do, more accurately, will be to suppress the function of the hormone, human chorionic gonadotropin (HCG), without which the fertilized egg cannot become established.

The human body produces this protein substance almost immediately after conception. The vaccine works by inducing the recipient to produce anti-bodies to block HCG's biological function. If it does this successfully, the egg will not be able to settle itself in the womb, the woman will menstruate normally and pregnancy will be prevented.

THE SEARCH for the "male pill" has concentrated on preventing spermatogenesis, or the development of the immature "conventional" cell into the highly organized, flagellate cell called the spermatozoon which is capable of fertilizing the female egg. The progress from spermatid to spermatozoon is orderly and at a biologically constant rate for each species. In man it takes roughly 10 days.

"The principal prospect," as Dr. David de Kretser of Australia put it to the international gathering at The Royal Society, "for an oral contraceptive for men in the next decade appears to be the interruption of spermatogenesis by hormonal mechanisms."

The four leading research studies now going on — in Austria, Brazil, West Germany and the USA — are using androgens (organic compounds associated with masculine characteristics) either alone or in combination with oestrogens and progestagens.

Various permutations are possible and many which have been tested have satisfied the most important considerations in a male pill — that it must act quickly, that it must be reversible or cease to be effective when the course is stopped, and that it must not suppress libido. A number of human volunteers have already tested some of them. But, as with the female vaccine, many important questions remain to be answered. It will be some time before a safe, sure and satisfying system of contraception comes to the market place. (Gemini)

IF YOU ARE anxious to make your home burglar-proof yourself, this article tells you how to fit an additional mortice lock.

You will require some elementary knowledge of carpentry, but if you do the job carefully it isn't at all difficult.

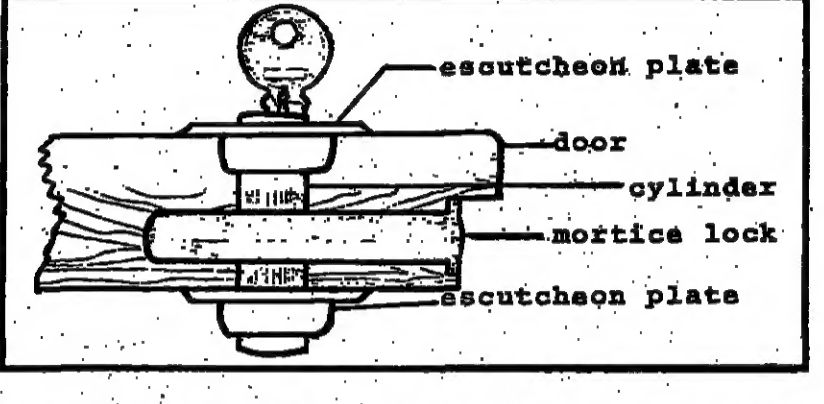
A mortice lock is one that fits completely inside the door itself, and is operated only by a key from either side of the door. A good mortice lock costs about £175, and looks like a smaller version of your existing door lock, only with the handle-operated spring bolt.

Mark the outline of the body of the lock on the edge of the door at the height convenient for you. Using an electric drill or a hand drill with a 12mm bit, drill a series of holes in the door, as indicated in the shaded portion of the illustration. Using a 10mm wood chisel (mallet), remove the projecting pieces between the holes and square off the ends, leaving you with a rectangular slot in the edge of the door.

Test that the lock fits easily, and with the lock positioned in the door, mark around the front plate and the holes for the retaining screws. Using a 3mm bit, drill pilot holes for the woodscrews supplied with the lock, and then, cut carefully around the marked outline, just inside the pen-

DO IT YOURSELF / MEIR FACTOR

Burglar-proofing your door



called line, using the chisel and a mallet (preferably a wooden mallet or a plastic-headed hammer). Remove about two millimetres of wood until the lock fits flush with the edge of the door, and line up the lock with the face of the door, taking care that the faceplate of the lock is level with the door edge.

Mark the position for the keyhole. Drill a series of holes around the keyhole and cut away the wood with the chisel. Insert the lock in the socket, position the cylinder and tighten up the long threaded bolt a few turns. Place the escutcheon plates over the cylinder, one on either side of the door, and enlarge

the hole until the depression on the escutcheon plate just fits in the hole. This is only necessary on one side of the door, as on the other side the escutcheon plate is mounted on the surface.

If the cylinder is now turning smoothly, insert the wood screws and tighten up the lock in the door. Also tighten up the long bolt holding the cylinder in the lock. Position the door so that the mortice lock is clear of the door frame and turn the key so that the bolt projects to its maximum extension.

Press the bolt against the door frame and mark the wood with a pencil. Position the lock catch plate (the piece of metal angle supplied with the lock) so that the cut-out slot is opposite the pencil mark. Outline the angle on the door frame with a pencil.

Cut out the socket for the bolt, using a hammer and chisel, and then cut away the outlined area to the thickness of the angle so that when the angle-plate is positioned, it doesn't project.

Drill 3mm pilot holes for the retaining screws and fix firmly to the door frame. Test that the bolt slides easily into the socket without catching. If there is any stiffness enlarge the socket slightly.

MUSIC REVIEWS

A fresh approach

SIDNEY HARTH, the guest conductor from Los Angeles, who has been working with the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra for some weeks now, directed a very popular programme on Tuesday night (Jerusalem Theatre, March 9): Haydn's "Clock" Symphony, Two Romances by Beethoven, Ravel's "Tzigane," and Dvorak's "New World" Symphony — all sure winners. Probably due to his late arrival in Jerusalem, Mr. Harth's remarkably good influence on the orchestra that we recognized on previous occasions, did not make itself felt at this concert. There were a few imprecisions and imbalances in the various sections which oc-

A pleasant experience

("Warum ist das Licht gegeben den Muehseligen") as well as some Israeli songs and Negro Spirituals. The highlight, however, was the performance of Andre Haydn's "Questions from the Bagdadab," a piece of traditional choral writing, simple in texture but extremely well-set for soloists and choir, avoiding dangerous clichés and refreshingly to the point.

Master of the field

Goehr for Flute, Oboe, Viola and Cello. His new form was most pleasing to the ear and beautifully played. The closing Quartet in G major K. 465 was doubtlessly the climax of the evening. Violinist Ilan Gronich's ideal leadership, technique, and dynamic temperament considerably raised the Quartet's standard though the Israel Quartet's experience and talents found recognition in the satisfied audience's stormy applause.

Enjoyable programme

HAIFA'S Bnei Brith "Judith Hoffendore" women's lodge arranged a concert for ex-soldiers who, after finishing their military service, want to continue their studies. (Auditorium, March 3.) Conductor Samuel Lewis with his Netanya Orchestra chose an easy programme for the enjoyment of the audience,

DOES THE LABOUR PARTY WANT TO CHANGE THE ELECTORAL SYSTEM?

For twenty years, the Liberal Party has campaigned to change the electoral system, from a national proportional representation system to an area proportional system, in order to:

- * strengthen the link between the elector and the elected
- * reduce the dependence of those elected on their party machinery
- * promote the formation of large parliamentary blocs which could form an alternative government

The new system must be based on these principles:

- The country would be divided by the Supreme Court into not less than 15 constituencies.
- All constituencies would return an equal number of Knesset Members (four or five).
- Lists, at least one of whose members are returned in each of at least three constituencies, will participate in the allocation of seats.
- In order to prevent the conversion of a minority into a majority, a list which does not receive a majority of the votes will not receive a majority of the seats.

A private member's Bill designed to change the electoral system was accepted by the Knesset two years ago, thanks to the votes of the Liberal Party.

The Labour Party promised that the principles and details of electoral reform would be worked out with the Liberal Party. As a result of threats to leave the coalition by the National Religious Party, Mapam and the Independent Liberal Party, who are categorically opposed to a change in the present system, the Labour Party has not implemented its undertaking to work out the principles and details of a new system with the Liberal Party.

Instead of working out a clear-cut detailed system, the Labour Party now prefers to put before the Knesset a proposal that has not been worked out in detail, is full of inconsistencies, and which deludes the public. This will not advance the implementation of electoral reform — it can only delay it.

The Liberal Party will not support this stratagem, and will continue to fight for a change in the electoral system, in line with the principles set out above.

Liberal Party (Likud)

Go to the Hanover Fair 76

and visit
London, Madrid, Seville and Granada
Departure April 27, return May 16

or visit
Copenhagen, Amsterdam, Brussels and Paris
Departure April 27, return May 17

Details and booking:
UNIVERS Ltd.
17 Rehov Rambam, Tel Aviv, Tel. 682976.

MASKIT

We hereby give notice that at the request of Maskit an order was issued by the District Court of Haifa on March 7, 1976, prohibiting the use of the name of Maskit and the use of the registered trade marks of Maskit by the shop known as Maskit at 6 Rehov Nardim, Haifa.

The aforementioned shop in Haifa has not been part of the chain of Maskit shops since September 30, 1974, and is not authorized to sell Maskit products.

We are pausing to open shortly a Maskit store in Haifa to serve our customers in Haifa and the northern part of the country.

RUTH DAYAN
President of Maskit

Turn of the screw

THE GOVERNMENT'S latest economic measures are doubtless highly unpalatable, but they are sound measures, and the Government deserves high marks for taking them.

For once, it seems, our political leaders have avoided the kind of easy compromise that is bound to cost dearly in the future, and have chosen instead to stand doggedly on principle to save the country's economy. This policy is not designed to bring increased popularity. Last Friday's decision of the Ministerial Wage Committee to embrace the Barkai Committee recommendations — on the abolition of civil servants' "specific allowances" — in their entirety, is certain to bring the Government into a head-on collision with the vast body of state employees. And yesterday's decision to hike the prices of some very basic commodities, including bread, milk, eggs and fuel, is hardly likely to endear Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz to the housewife and the motorist.

The Government must have realized in advance that its decisions would not meet with universal applause, and it clearly was not playing to the galleries. Much more important than fleeting popular approbation, however, is the obvious fact that the only alternative to either decision would have meant progressive ruin for the economy. Most basically, perhaps, backtracking and hesitancy on the part of the Government would have destroyed any remaining vestige of its credibility in the eyes of the people. Without the nation's faith in its ability to lead, no democratic Government can hope to endure.

It is reassuring therefore that the Rabin Government is planning to stand firm, and not to give way to vested interests, large and powerful as they may be, who will attempt to erode its economic programme. We are told that no exceptions are going to be allowed to the Barkai Committee recommendations, and that whatever agreement is finally reached with the Histadrut on the new level of prices, the budgeted allocation for subsidies will not be affected.

Critics of the Government, who only yesterday levelled against it grave charges of indecision and inaction, may still justifiably ask whether the present firmness represents a true change or merely a temporary tactic. There is no gainsaying that the continued impotence of the Labour Party — its inability to serve in the traditional role of national pace-setter — is a serious limitation on the Government's capacity to form coherent programmes and to carry them out. The dubious compromise reached at the Cabinet on the Defence Ministry's claim for an extra IL1,000m. in next year's budget lends support to such scepticism, for it indicates a lingering willingness to solve issues by putting them off.

But it would be wholly unjust not to give the Government a chance to prove that it does, in fact, mean what it now says, and that it means business. In refusing to depart from its established guidelines, the Government may also discover that it enjoys greater public support than it has feared. The consumer poll which brought out that an overwhelming majority in the country are backing a rise in the price of bread may not have been wholly representative. But it may have been a straw in the wind.

KING HUSSEIN'S visit to Washington later this month is expected to offer proof that it is the American presence in Damascus, rather than the Soviet presence in Amman — or Beirut — that is being strengthened in the process of rapprochement between Syria and Jordan. That proof will not, and probably cannot, be dramatic. And the chances are that it will be less than totally convincing to Congressmen who are going to be asked to be generous to both Jordan and Syria in order to shore up an improved U.S. position in those countries, as well as to enhance the prospects for a negotiated settlement with Israel.

U.S.-Syrian contacts have been as unproductive and as hostile as they often appeared to be this past fall and winter. The Syrians, while driving a hard bargain, have been careful not to close any doors to the possibility of negotiating another agreement with Israel — a policy the Americans accepted with a sigh of relief. And there are now indications to the effect that the U.S. approved, rather than derided, the role Syria played in Lebanon's civil war — at least until the most recent military coup in Beirut.

On the one hand, the U.S. supplied some arms and verbal support to the

Syria has become a storm centre of American-Soviet competition, with both superpowers bidding for the favours of President Hafez Assad, who is viewed in Washington and in Moscow as the most remarkable Arab politician since Nasser, writes Charles Fenyvesi from Washington.

U.S. dallies with Syria

Christian side in order not to alienate traditional friends. But the U.S. withheld the kind of critical support the Christians needed for a victory or for a stand-off which would have preserved the status quo ante bellum. The pretext cited was the U.S. fear of another Vietnam.

On the other hand, it now appears that the U.S. maintained close contact with Syria during the entire crisis and raised no objection to the incursion, carefully limited in size and scope, of the so-called Palestinian units into Lebanese territory. At the same time, the U.S. claimed credit in Damascus for keeping Israel at bay.

This delicate operation of balancing and tilting stood in sharp contrast with the U.S. — and Israeli — role in the Jordanian civil war of 1970. It also had some parallels — although no more than some parallels — with U.S. policies in the Yom Kippur war of 1973. Carefully sown in the U.S. acceptance of Syria's new role in Lebanon were the seeds of better U.S.-Syrian relations.

SUBTLE CARE was exercised by American diplomats in keeping a reasonably favourable U.S. press treatment of the Syrian role in Lebanon. They encouraged the perception that Syria not only pacified a bloody civil war but also facilitated a much-needed social and political transformation in a privilege-ridden, semi-feudal society.

It remains to be seen whether or not these American gestures of good will toward Syria will extend to a major diplomatic effort on the Golan Heights. Such an initiative is difficult in the best of circumstances. But in this election year, with Henry Kissinger as a target of attacks, it requires a great deal of confidence in the Secretary of State's self-confidence to picture another 33-day shuttle between Tel Aviv and Damascus or the kind of arm-twisting that produced the interim agreement on Sinai.

Kissinger may be able to convince the U.S. Congress and press that Assad is the man to watch as the representative of a new wave of practical and undemagogic Arab

leaders. There may well be a willingness in the Congress to go along with the notion that Assad is not the Soviets' puppet. But that is not the same thing as rewarding a great new friend of America. For Israel, the issue may be presented in Washington as involving — in that memorably imperious phrase of Kissinger's — only "a few lousy kilometers." But other Americans are not likely to close their eyes to the larger issue of Syria's remaining an implacable and warlike foe of the Jewish State.

The Russians, in the meantime, will continue claiming Assad as their great friend. They will point to the leftist ideology of the Damascus Baath as proof that Syria has not followed Egypt's lead.

Even if Kissinger secures the kind of U.S. technological assistance Syria is said to be eager for, Soviet arms will continue pouring into Syria — not a development designed to strengthen the argument of those calling for an accommodation with Syria. So unless the Syrians pressure the Palestinians into a posture that the U.S. can say Israel should not refuse, Israel stands a good chance of successfully resisting a Greater Syria led by the most cunning of Arab leaders who is friendly with both superpowers.



This 18th century plate for Purim gifts is now on exhibit at the Israel Museum. It shows Mordechai being led by Haman, both of them dressed in 18th century West European garb.

PORTION FOR PURIM

The removal of the ring

The Book of Esther

RABBI ABRAHAM bar Kahana said: Ahasuerus' removing his signet ring and handing it to Haman (Esther 3:10) was greater than the 48 Prophets and seven Prophetesses who addressed the Jews. For all the latter did not succeed in persuading the Jews to repent, whereas the removal of the ring caused them to mend their ways (Megilla 14a. See also Midrash Echa Rabba 4:22).

"IF IT PLEASES the King, let an edict be issued for their destruction," Haman says to King Ahasuerus (Esther 3:9). According to Rabbi Shimon ben Lakish, Ahasuerus replied: "You will never succeed, for their God does not forsake them. See what He did to the early kings who tried to lay hands on them, and they were mightier kings than we. Anyone trying to destroy them or scheme against them came to a bad end and became a byword in the entire world. Drop the subject."

But Haman continued to pester Ahasuerus in the matter, filling his ear with evil reports about the Jews. Finally, Ahasuerus said to him: "In that case, let us consult the wise men. And he summoned all the Gentile wise men of the world and said to them: 'Do you agree to the destruction of that nation?'"

With one voice they replied: "Who is trying to put that mistaken idea into your head? If you annihilate the Jews, the world will come to an end, for the world survives only by virtue of the Torah which was given to the Jews, as written (Jeremiah 33:25): 'If not for My Covenant... I would not have established the order of heaven and earth.' And see what happened to the early kings who tried to lay hands on the Jews, like Pharaoh and Sennacherib."

Haman retorted: "The God Who drowned the Egyptians in the sea and wrought those miracles for the Jews has become old and impotent. For since that time, Nebuchadnezzar came and destroyed His shrine, and dispersed the Jews among the nations. So where is that old God's might?"

Hearing this, the assembly of Gentile wise men unanimously supported Haman's idea of exterminating the Jews, and the letters to that effect were written, signed and sealed, and dispatched to all the provinces of Ahasuerus' realm. That day, Mordechai was walking in the street and came upon three children returning home from school. He asked them: "What did you learn today?"

The first child answered: "Be not afraid of sudden terror, nor of the destructions schemed by the wicked" (Proverbs 3:25).

The second child answered: "Scheme your designs (you nations), but they shall be foiled; propose what you please, but it shall not come to pass, for God is with us" (Isaiah 8:9-10).

The third child answered: "Even to old age I am He, and even when white hairs come I will continue to carry you; I have made you and I will bear the burden; I will carry you and bring you to safety" (Isaiah 46:4).

Hearing this, Mordechai rejoiced (Midrash Esther Rabba 7:13).

READERS' LETTERS

PAYING THE PILOTS' PRICE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — In reply to your letter (Philip A. Pearl, March 8) I wish to assure you, dear pilot, that we all agree with your arguments. Most of us are fully aware of your very special efforts. We do not begrudge you your well earned salary or expenses refunded. All we want is that you pay income tax as we all do.

A sound sterling was one Israeli pound 25 years ago, not now. If you nevertheless, want it to be reckoned as it was worth then, then please pay your income tax in pounds sterling as well, and for the dollars earned pay in dollars; this will save our state much needed foreign exchange.

And don't forget that it is not only a matter between yourself and your employer, because the latter is a state-owned company and any deficit, incurred because it pays your tax for you, will in the end have to be defrayed by us, the public.

MORDECHAI ESCHWEIG
Jerusalem.

Sir, — I agree with Pilot Pearl that he and his fellow pilots, not only here in Israel, but in every other airline in the world, do an unbelievably difficult, vital and responsible job. But no more respect and admiration is due him than a fireman who enters a burning building in a crowded area full of highly explosive or inflammable material, or a common foot-soldier on patrol in the North under constant threat of terrorist fire. Their devotion and responsibility is not greater than his, nor is it any less.

What is objected to by the public is the attitude that the pilot's wages and taxes are above discussion and the law. I should not have to remind them that we in Israel live in extremely critical and onerous times and if it is in the public interest to air their pay problems, it is unfortunate but clearly necessary.

In all fairness, this country simply cannot afford this "public be damned" attitude shared, sadly enough, not only by the pilots, but too many other segments of our work force.

JOEL H. WECHSLER
Holon.

Sir, — I agree entirely with Philip A. Pearl (March 8) that his pay is no one's business except his own and his employer's. Where I do disagree with him is that I believe he should pay his taxes like everyone else in Israel.

I don't underestimate the professionalism of his job, but I can't sympathize with his family problems. He chose his career knowing the disadvantages involved, but apparently the advantages were greater.

I spent 23 years as a member of the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force and the separations from my family were long and many and at a pay scale far lower than an El Al pilot's — but I chose the career, the professionalism, the advantages and the disadvantages and I paid my taxes except when in a combat zone.

Not all of us who are chair-borne get paid for doing nothing — some of us would rather be with our families and earn a lot less.

EDWARD S. FORTUS
Kfar Saba.

Sir, — El Al is not a private company. Moreover, El Al pilots may be compared to the hare which runs ahead of the hounds in the race, and in Israel, every group demands remuneration according to what it sees others receive. These two reasons alone give every citizen and newspaperman the right, even the duty, to discuss the pilots' salaries.

Mr. Pearl speaks about his difficult family life. He is doubtless unaware that he sees his children as much as does the average working man and far more than regular soldiers and doctors do.

DAVID ANGEL
Haifa.

THE UNJUSTLY HIGH COST OF UNIVERSITY FEES

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — To me, it seems unreasonable and socially unjust to ask young students to pay high tuition fees to cover the expenses or the deficits of the universities.

In a socially advanced society, the aim must be free education for all capable of benefiting from it. High fees, and no matter how many fellowships are granted, will always be especially hard for those who need the education most for their advancement through training and social mobility — the potential student from the poorer and lower social strata or from large families. Our taxation, does not seem to consider the need to support children above the age of 18, as no such deductions are recognized. And most students, of course, enter the universities only at the age of 21, or even later.

To finance studies through loans to be repaid after graduation might sound reasonable, assuming there is an assurance for employment with appropriate higher wages for univer-

sity graduates. However, a considerable percentage of our university graduates enter the job market as medium-grade civil servants, high-school teachers, social workers, secretaries or laboratory assistants, without the outlook for high earning capacity. As long as our wage and taxation systems allow for automatic advancement and higher earnings or fringe benefits for various essentially little-trained pressure groups or for certain high-earning craftsmen who hardly pay any taxes, it would seem unreasonable to ask such low-earning graduates to start their late careers with the additional disadvantage of the burden of large loans.

A large percentage of the budget of the institutes of higher learning goes on research programmes and image-shaping expenses. And though the student benefits from all this by studying at a more or less well equipped, up-to-date and prestigious university, it is not fair to request him to pay also for the research of his teachers.

SECURITY AT THE HERMON

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I wish to draw your attention to the following facts recently witnessed at the Hermon ski-site.

1. Thousands of people who visit the site daily are given aids without the benefit of instructions on use and/or security. Broken legs and arms are a daily occurrence.

2. There are two lifts available for skiers, but nobody to assist them at the upper end where they get off the chairs. This could cause serious injury to the user.

3. Medical facilities are beyond description. A friend of mine recently broke her leg at the site. The medical assistant there tried to convince her at first that the broken leg was a figment of her imagination. He then sent her off in a private car to the hospital in Safad in spite of the fact that an ambulance was standing by. Upon arrival at the hospital, the doctor found the leg to be badly broken and was amazed to hear that she had been sent from the Hermon without even minimum first aid.

4. Chemical toilets have been installed at the site — the filth is disgraceful. Why can't normal public flush toilets be installed after so many millions have been invested in the installations?

I certainly feel that the appropriate authority should look into this matter urgently before serious disaster occurs.

A. FREIGEL
Tel Aviv.

DIRTY LINEN

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — Let me point out to Readers of The Jerusalem Post that if Israel's dirty linen were ever washed, even in public, it would be a very healthy phenomenon. The problem is that the linen remains dirty, is aired far and wide in the daily state.

R. KINZIG
Herzliya.

Dry Bones



ISRAEL PRESS

Lebanon now a Syrian satellite?

MA'ARIV (Independent) writes: "While President Franjez maintains that he is in close contact with Damascus, there are growing indications that the Syrians are giving their support to El-Ahdab, hoping to turn Lebanon virtually into a Syrian satellite state."

"So long as the struggle in Lebanon is an internal one, at least ostensibly, the self-control exercised by Israel is correct. But it would be inconceivable for Israel to maintain her passive stance in case of any development in Lebanon that decisively alters the situation along the northern border, particularly if such a change oc-

curs in the wake of outside intervention."

YEDYOT ABARONOT (Independent) says: "Throughout the Lebanese civil war, it was Syria's plan to annex Lebanon as a first stage and Jordan as a second, in order to surround Israel from three sides and overrun it with the help of the USSR — as stage three."

"When Assad realized that the independent regime in Beirut was not 'collapsing' of its own accord, he decided on a further blow to topple the regime." The paper asks "whether it is correct for Israel to maintain her stoic silence right through to the completion of the Syrian action along her border."

PLAYGIRL

February 1976 Issue

sole distributor

Steimatzky's

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY!!!

The famous General Electric Refrigerators

Immediate delivery
Direct import from the U.S.A.
SALON KAV-OR LTD.

109 Allenby Road

Tel Aviv

Tel. 615522, 613245

The ECONOMIST

March 13, 1976

★ ★ The Mutineers who could yet split Lebanon
★ ★ Golda's back
★ ★ Jerusalem:
Muslims above Jews below
BRONFMAN'S AGENCY LTD

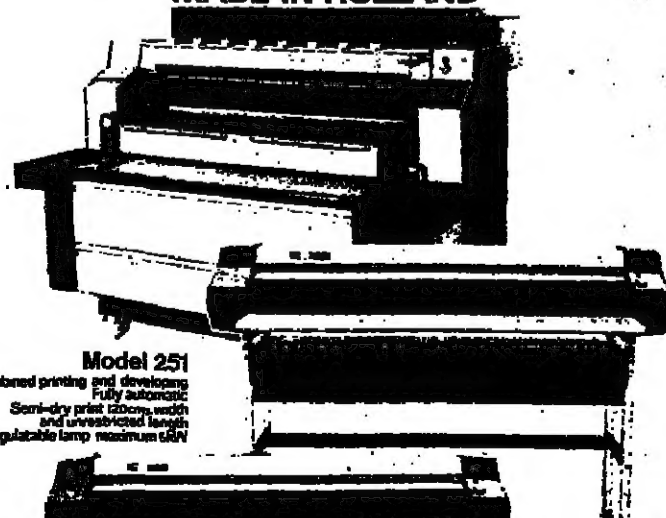
AMI Forwarding Agents Ltd.

a synonym for rapid, individual and reliable forwarding service.

For overseas removals and any problem involving the Customs, call Tel. 63-612652.

arza®

Sensitized Paper Industry Ltd., Jerusalem
Offers the latest models
DIAZO PLAN PRINTERS (BLUEPRINTS)
MADE IN HOLLAND



Model 200

Lowest on-off printer

Compact, sturdy, reliable

1 super-fluorescent tube 50W

These and many more models available to meet individual needs.

Models on view and available for demonstration.

ARZA produces all types of sensitized paper, suitable for use in a variety of machines, with semi-dry and ammoniac development.

ARZA production methods are tested and approved by the Israel Bureau of Standards.

JERUSALEM

Shahar Centre, Givat Shaul 8

Tel. 02-521270, 521873

Model 214

On-off printer for landscape

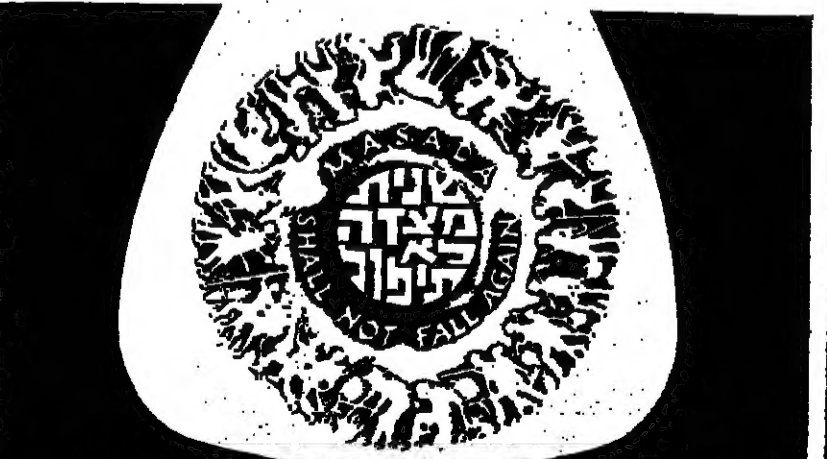
Super-quality prints

4 super-fluorescent tubes 50W each

TEL AVIV

25 Bank Street

Tel. 03-228848, 224233



Commemorative Coins and Official State Medals

An enduring memento
of your visit
The perfect gift for your friends
and business associates

Visit our showroom:

JERUSALEM:

5 Rehov Ahdad Ha'am

Tel. 02-68105, 67/8

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT COINS
AND MEDALS CORPORATION

New Paperbacks FONTANA

- ★ Aurora Dawn — Herman Wouk
- ★ The Drowning Pool — Ross Macdonald
- ★ Expressway — Ellington Trevor
- ★ The Inequality of Man — H.J. Eysenck
- ★ Front-Line Stalingrad — Victor Nekrasov
- ★ They do it with Mirrors — Agatha Christie
- ★ The Simler with the Knife — Nicholas Blake
- ★ Running Blind — Desmond Bagley

sole distributor

Steimatzky's

Just Arrived New AVON Paperbacks

- ★ A Temporary Life — David Storey
- ★ The Klingon's Fortune — Stephen Longstreet
- ★ Mysteries — Kmt. Hamson
- ★ Margaret in Vicky — Georges Simenon
- ★ The Elusive Gift — Simon Lang
- ★ The Lawyer — Albert Gerber

sole distributor

Steimatzky's